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SIXTH REPORT

TO THE

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF RHODE ISLAND,

RELATING TO THE

REGISTRY AND RETURNS

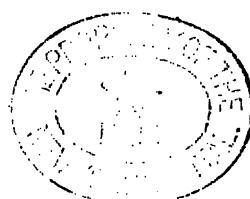
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Births, Marriages, and Deaths,
IN THE STATE,

For the year ending December 31, 1858.

PREPARED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

JOHN R. BARTLETT,

SECRETARY OF STATE.



PROVIDENCE:
KNOWLES, ANTHONY & CO., STATE PRINTERS.

1859.

ЛЯМАЛ ЗМАІ

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Providence,
November 14, 1859.

To the Honorable General Assembly:

GENTLEMEN, In accordance with the requirements of the chapter of the Revised Statutes, which provides for a registration of births, marriages, and deaths, the annual report on this subject, for the year 1858, has been prepared and printed. The Rhode Island Medical Society has annually appointed a committee to assist in carrying out the details of this law, as contemplated by the statute. The immediate care of preparing the annual report was confided, with the approbation of this committee, to CHARLES W. PARSONS, M. D., of Providence. The preliminary tables were made up under his personal direction; and the remarks which follow were written by him. New topics for inquiry are continually arising, in connection with this subject. The present report illustrates some which have not been introduced before. It contains many important results in regard to the diseases most fatal in different parts of the State; and also a sketch of the history of population in Rhode Island.

Respectfully submitted, by

JOHN R. BARTLETT,
Secretary of State.

COMMITTEE ON REGISTRATION
OF THE
RHODE ISLAND MEDICAL SOCIETY.

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GENERAL ABSTRACT OF THE BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS,
IN THE YEAR
1858.

Junctionville,	3,538	115	61	51	3	40	63	4	2	1	15	9	4	1	61	34	27	33	28	28	30
Couston,	4,311	256	122	131	3	100	138	7	5	6	21	18	1	2	110	60	49	55	50	50	60
Cumberlaund,	6,661	167	97	70	..	67	91	3	6	..	111	65	37	2	137	69	63	..	63	..	63
Forster,	1,982	50	23	24	..	50	24	..	..	..	11	11	11	..	12	7	1	12	7	7	1
Glocester,	2,872	63	23	34	1	..	68	4	1	..	23	10	16	..	26	10	16	38	38	38	38
Johnstone,	2,937	64	33	23	..	40	21	..	2	..	18	14	8	..	18	58	45	647	587	587	587
North Provilence,	7,680	239	127	119	..	63	163	10	8	..	74	35	28	6	151	93	87	1	771	771	771
Sefton,	4,682	26	14	12	..	24	12	..	2	..	31	30	19	..	25	6	19	..	24	1	24
Smithfield,	11,500	44	25	14	11	..	10	14	..	..	53	33	13	4	93	47	46	15	49	29	45
Towne Peov. Co.,	46,013	1,006	525	473	7	447	501	..	..	..	366	1	270	330	122	744	832	8,284	8,284	8,284	8,284
Prov. Lincoln Outr.,	41,513	1,724	890	834	..	712	886	..	..	..	516	..	512	505	..	501	516	10,210	14,160	10,210	14,160
Charlestowm,	994	23	12	12	..	11	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Exeter,	1,634	16	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..



TABLE II. BIRTHS. 1858.

Arranged by months, sexes, and divisions of the State.

MONTHS.	SEX.	Whole number.	DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.						Washington co.
			Bristol county.	Kent county.	Newport County.	Town of Providence county.	Providence city.		
January.....	Male,	177	6	11	20	48	79	13	
	Female,	165	10	12	26	44	56	17	
	Unknown,	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
	Total,	343	16	23	46	93	135	30	
February.....	Male,	169	10	11	22	36	69	21	
	Female,	160	4	12	33	30	67	14	
	Unknown,	3	1	..	1	1	..	..
	Total,	332	15	23	56	67	136	35	
March.....	Male,	193	11	17	18	46	70	31	
	Female,	181	7	11	23	38	82	20	
	Unknown,	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
	Total,	375	18	28	41	85	152	51	
April....	Male,	195	11	13	27	42	75	27	
	Female,	146	5	15	16	33	55	22	
	Total,	341	16	28	43	75	130	49	
May.....	Male,	156	6	16	18	30	65	21	
	Female,	183	6	15	23	40	78	21	
	Unknown,	2	..	..	..	2	..	..
	Total,	341	12	31	41	72	143	42	
June...	Male,	178	4	14	23	42	72	23	
	Female,	158	6	13	22	34	65	18	
	Unknown,	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
	Total,	337	10	27	45	77	137	41	
July.....	Male,	210	8	18	25	45	85	29	
	Female,	163	6	9	23	44	61	20	
	Total,	373	14	27	48	89	146	49	
August.....	Male,	175	7	10	33	43	61	21	
	Female,	202	12	16	30	44	80	20	
	Total,	377	19	26	63	87	141	41	
September...	Male,	168	9	9	18	42	72	18	
	Female,	170	7	10	20	41	74	18	
	Total,	338	16	19	38	83	146	36	
October....	Male,	188	10	5	31	51	76	15	
	Female,	184	13	11	31	45	66	18	
	Unknown,	1	..	..	..	1	..	..
	Total,	373	23	16	62	97	142	33	

TABLE II. BIRTHS. 1858. CONTINUED.

MONTHS.	SEX.		OF THE STATE.		
			Towns of Providence county.	Providence city.	Washington co.
November...	Male,		55	78	8
	Female,		45	70	8
	Unknown,		..	..	..
	Total,		100	148	16
December...	Male,		45	88	16
	Female,		35	80	18
	Total,		80	168	34
Aggregate...	Male,		525	890	243
	Female,		473	834	214
	Unknown			4	..
	Total,				457
PARENTAGE.					
American			2	363	
Foreign			6	50	
American father } & foreign mother }			8	12	
Foreign father & American mother }			8	6	
Unknown			39	9	26



TABLE III. PLURALITY BIRTHS. 1858.

Arranged by months, sexes, and divisions of the State; the parentage being also exhibited.

DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.	Number of cases.	SEX OF CHILDREN.	Whole number.	MONTHS.											
				January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.
Bristol county ^a	3	Male, Female,	4 2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Kent county ^b	2	Male, Female,	1 3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2
Newport county ^c . . .	4	Male, Female,	4 4	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	2	2
Towns of Providence county ^d . . .	17	Male, Female,	13 21	1	3	3	4	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	3
Providence city ^e . . .	18	Male, Female,	17 19	1	4	2	2	1	4	1	2	2	2	2	3
Washington county ^f	7	Male, Female,	8 6	2	2	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Total.	51	Male, Female,	47 55	2	2	3	4	7	5	4	1	2	4	5	8
		Total,	102	6	4	8	8	16	8	8	6	4	8	12	14

a Parents in two cases, American; in one, Irish.

b Parents in both cases, American.

c Parents in three cases, American; in one, father English and mother American.

d Parents in ten cases, American; in five, Irish; in one, father Dutch and mother Irish; in one, English.

e Parents in six cases, American; in nine, Irish; in one, father English and mother Irish; in one, British American; in one, Dutch.

f Parents in all cases, American.



Bulau (Gymnura Rafflesii).—III., 420.

MONTH	STATE.				Providence city.	Washington co.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.		
January.....					16	49
February.....	106	4	8	12	20	53
March.....	89	2			24	26
April.....	95	8	5	14	20	35
May.....	118	7	1	15	32	45
June.....	101	3		12	27	41
July.....	107	7	10	7	32	46
August.....	114	10	5	16	36	36
September.....	138	5	14	27	32	52
October.....	153	3	18	23	34	60
November.....	190	14	17	26	41	71
December.....	123	7	11	21	29	46
Total	1,438	82	130	193	343	560
STATE.						
NATIVITY.						
American.....	872	51	103	102	223	283
Foreign.....	422	24	17	75	87	214
American male & }	76	..	6	6	13	42
Foreign female }	64	7	4	10	20	21
American female }	4	..	..	..	..	4

TABLE V. AGES OF PERSONS MARRIED. 1858.

[Read thus: 43 men, under twenty, married women under twenty; 14 men, under twenty, married women between twenty and twenty-five; 205 men, between twenty and twenty-five, married women under twenty, &c.]

AGES OF MEN.	AGES OF WOMEN.										Whole number of men.	
	Under 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.		
Under 20	43	14	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	62
20 and under 25 . . .	205	307	57	9	3	1	..	..	..	..	..	582
25 " 30	76	196	104	13	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	395
30 " 35	19	54	60	22	8	2	1	..	..	..	..	166
35 " 40	5	16	20	16	15	7	1	..	..	..	..	80
40 " 45	2	6	8	13	10	5	2	..	1	..	..	47
45 " 50	1	3	5	3	6	8	2	1	..	..	..	29
50 " 55	1	..	4	2	6	5	1	2	..	1	..	22
55 " 60 . . . . .	..	1	..	3	1	2	1	3	1	..	..	12
60 " 65 . . . . .	..	..	2	..	1	3	1	4	1	1	..	13
65 " 70 . . . . .	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	4
70 " 75 . . . . .	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	3
75 " 80 . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Unknown . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	21
Whole No. of Women	352	597	265	81	55	35	12	12	3	2	1	1,438

TABLE VI. DEATHS. 1858.

Arranged by months, sexes, and divisions of the State.

MONTHS.	SEX.	Whole number.	DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.						
			Bristol county.	Kent county.	Newport county.	Towns of Prov. co.	Providence city.	Washington county.	
January	Male,	108	4	15	22	26	39	..	2
	Female,	126	3	6	22	33	57	5	5
February	Total,	234	7	21	44	59	96	..	7
	Male,	110	7	10	16	30	42	5	5
March	Female,	123	7	7	25	28	48	..	8
	Unknown,	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
March	Total,	234	14	17	41	59	90	13	13
	Male,	108	6	5	17	32	43	5	5
	Female,	112	3	6	18	26	50	9	9
	Total,	220	9	11	35	58	93	14	14

TABLE VI.

INUED.

MONTHS.	SEX.	F THE STATE.				Washington co.	
		Towns of Providence county.	Providence city.				
April	Male,	26	64			10	
	Female,	31	54			8	
	Total.	57	118			18	
May	Male,		45			12	
	Female		39			3	
	Unknov		..			..
	Total		84			15	
June	Male,		36			8	
	Female,		40			14	
	Total,		76			22	
July	Male,		35			10	
	Female,		40			3	
	Total,		75			13	
August	Male,		53			5	
	Female,		43			8	
	Unknown,		..			..
	Total,		96			13	
September . . .	Male,		44			10	
	Female,		42			13	
	Total,		86			23	
October	Male,		36			7	
	Female,		24			6	
	Total,		60			13	
November	Male,		34			3	
	Female,		34			3	
	Total,		68			6	
December	Male,		30			12	
	Female,		45			12	
	Unknown,		..			..
	Total,		75			24	
Aggregate . . .	Male,	1,293	58	133	157	501	89
	Female,	1,319	60	101	184	516	92
	Unknown,	4	3	1	..
	Total,	2,616	118	234	344	722	1,017
							181

TABLE VII. DEATHS. 1858.

Showing the number of each sex who died in each period

TOWNS AND DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.	SEX.										
		Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.
Barrington	Male,	5	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	Female,	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Bristol	Male,	9	2	2	2	..	3	..	1	1	2
	Female,	3	4	1	1	1	1	..	2	..	2
Warren	Male,	4	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	2
	Female,	2	2	..	..	2	1	1	2	..	1
BRISTOL Co.	Male,	18	4	3	2	1	3	..	2	1	2
	Female,	5	6	1	1	3	2	2	5	..	2
	Total,	23	10	4	3	4	5	2	7	1	6
											5
Coventry	Male,	7	3	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	1
	Female,	6	2	..	..	1	..	..	3	1	..
East Greenwich . . .	Male,	8	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	1	..
	Female,	1	8	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	2
West Greenwich . . .	Male,	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Female,	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Warwick	Male,	11	7	1	2	2	5	4	3	4	2
	Female,	7	5	..	1	..	2	2	..	7	1
KENT Co.	Male,	29	11	1	3	3	7	5	5	5	3
	Female,	14	17	..	1	1	3	3	4	8	2
	Total,	43	28	1	4	4	10	8	9	13	5
											7
Fall River	Male,	6	1	..	2	..	..	1	2	..	1
	Female,	3	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Jamestown	Male,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Female,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Little Compton . . .	Male,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
	Female,	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
Middletown	Male,	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
	Female,	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..
Newport	Male,	18	10	10	7	4	13	5	1	4	3
	Female,	21	10	6	5	10	10	3	5	4	3
	Unknown,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Shoreham . . .	Male,	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
	Female,	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	Unknown,	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Portsmouth	Male,	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	Female,	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	1
Tiverton	Male,	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
	Female,	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
NEWPORT Co.	Male,	31	12	10	10	5	13	6	5	5	4
	Female,	29	16	6	5	11	13	3	9	6	6
	Unknown,	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total,	62	28	16	15	16	26	9	14	11	8

of life

35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	TOTAL.		
					Fem.	Un.	Total.
...	...	...	...	...	6	13	
1	1	2	...	...	31	66	
...	1	...	1	...	23	39	
1	1	1	1	1	60		
1	1	3	..	..	
1	2	1	2	1			
2	3	4	2	1			118
1	1	2	.	1			
2	1	..	..	1	28	62	
1	..	1	..	..	22	42	
1	..	1	..	..	7	24	
2	2	1	1	1	44	106	
3	1	2	3	2	101		
1	4	..	1	1			
7	4	6	4	4			
4	5	1	1	2			
11	9	7	5	6			234
...	...	1	..	..	
1	1	..	1	..	9	35	
...	...	..	..	..	1	2	
...	1	..	..	1	8	13	
...	1	1	1	1	0	13	
...	1	1	..	..	7	228	
2	2	..	3	9	3		
3	2	5	..	3	2	11	
...	...	..	..	1			
...	1	..	..	..	13	19	
...	..	1	1	..	3	23	
2	3	1	5	11	4		
4	7	7	4	4	3		
6	10	8	9	15	14		344



TABLE VII. DEATHS. 1858. CONTINUED.

TOWNS AND DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.		SEX.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	3 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.
Burrillville.	Male,	6	5	3	..	1	1	2	2	..	1
	Female,	3	2	..	1	1	2	1	2	3	2
Cranston.	Male,	10	10	5	5	1	7	1	2	..	1
	Female,	12	8	4	2	2	8	..	4	..	..
Cumberland.	Male,	15	11	2	2	3	4	1	3	3	2
	Female,	7	6	4	2	1	2	3	5	7	4
Foster.	Male,	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
	Female,	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
Glocester.	Male,	3	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	Female,	4	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2
Johnston.	Male,	2	5	5	4	1	3	1	2	..	..
	Female,	9	8	6	2	3	4	..	..	1	1
North Providence	Male,	22	10	6	5	4	6	4	1	1	4
	Female,	15	11	4	5	2	4	3	3	6	1
	Unknown,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scituate.	Male,	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
	Female,	1	1	..	..	..	3	1	1	..	2
Smithfield.	Male,	1	7	4	1	3	2	..	3	3	1
	Female,	5	5	5	..	1	1	1	2	5	4
TOWNS, PROV. CO.	Male,	61	50	25	17	12	23	9	14	9	12
	Female,	57	41	23	11	11	23	10	14	25	14
	Unknown,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total,	118	91	48	28	23	46	19	28	34	23
PROVIDENCE }.	Male,	125	74	34	17	12	27	5	15	21	13
CITY. }.	Female,	84	54	33	15	13	26	14	14	21	26
	Total,	209	128	67	32	25	53	19	29	42	39
Charlestown.	Male,	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Female,	5	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Exeter.	Male,	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Hopkinton.	Male,	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
	Female,	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
North Kingstown.	Male,	1	1	1	..	..	2	..	1	2	..
	Female,	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
South Kingstown.	Male,	4	5	1	1	..	3	2	1	..	..
	Female,	3	4	1	1	1	3	..	3	1	1
Richmond.	Male,	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Female,	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2	..	..
Westerly.	Male,	4	3	1	..	1	1	..	..	2	..
	Female,	6	1	1	..	1	1	1	2	1	..
WASHINGTON CO.	Male,	12	11	4	3	1	7	2	2	4	3
	Female,	13	6	4	2	2	4	2	8	5	2
	Total,	25	17	8	5	3	11	4	10	9	5

TABLE VII. DEATHS. 1858. CONTINUED.



1	3	2	4	5	2	4	2	7	4	..	..	5	89	1
1	5	6	2	5	3	3	5	4	3	2	2	..	92	1
1	8	8	6	10	5	7	7	11	7	2	2	5	..	181

RECAPITULATION.

COUNTIES.	SEX.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.
BRISTOL.....	Male,	18	4	3	2	1	3	..	2	1	2	3
	Female,	5	6	1	1	3	2	2	5	..	4	2
	Total,	23	10	4	3	4	5	2	7	1	6	5
KENT.....	Male,	29	11	1	3	3	7	5	5	5	3	2
	Female,	14	17	..	1	1	3	3	4	8	2	5
	Total,	43	28	1	4	4	10	8	9	13	5	7
NEWPORT.....	Male,	31	12	10	10	5	13	6	5	5	4	4
	Female,	29	16	6	5	11	13	3	9	6	6	4
	Unknown,	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
PROVIDENCE....	Male,	186	124	59	34	24	50	14	29	30	22	39
	Female,	141	95	56	26	24	49	24	28	46	40	41
	Unknown,	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
WASHINGTON...	Total,	327	219	115	60	48	99	38	57	76	62	80
	Male,	12	11	4	3	1	7	2	2	4	3	2
	Female,	13	6	4	2	2	4	2	8	5	2	3
WHOLE STATE..	Total,	25	17	8	5	3	11	4	10	9	5	5
	Male,	276	162	77	52	34	80	27	43	45	34	50
	Female,	202	140	67	35	41	71	34	54	65	54	55
	Unknown,	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Total,	480	302	144	87	75	151	61	97	110	88	105

RECAPITULATION.

TABLE VIII. CAUSES OF DEATH. 1858.

Arranged alphabetically; showing the number of each sex, who died from each cause, in every month, and in the several periods of life.

TABLE VIII. CAUSES OF DEATH. CONTINUED.

TABLE VIII. CAUSES OF DEATH. CONTINUED.

TABLE VIII. CAUSES OF DEATH. CONTINUED.

AGGREGATE OF TABLE VIII.

SEX.	MONTHS.	DIVISIONAL PERIODS OF LIFE.												
		NUMBER OF EACH SEX.			Unknown.			Female.			Male.			
Male,	January.	108	110	108	129	103	97	104	145	104	96	84	105	1293
Female,	January.	126	123	112	126	101	101	98	112	135	81	82	122	1319
Unknown,	January.	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	2	4
Total,	January.	234	234	220	255	205	198	202	258	239	177	166	228	2616
Still Born,														
Male,	February.	10	9	13	7	6	8	13	6	7	11	7	12	109
Female,	February.	4	6	5	4	8	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	60
Unknown,	February.	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	8
Total,	February.	16	17	19	12	14	13	17	11	12	15	14	17	..
Grand Total,	February.	250	251	239	267	219	211	210	245	180	1402	1379	122793	

TABLE IX. CLASSIFICATION AND PERCENTAGE. 1858.

Showing what part of the mortality, in the whole State, and in each division, was ascribed to each several cause, and class of causes.

DEATHS.

I. Zymotic Diseases.							II. General or Not Localized.						
1	27	50	4	93	Cholera Infantum.	.....	.04	4.01	2.70	5.02	5.03	3.13	5.22
1	6	2	2	2	Cholera Morbus	.....		.09	.20	2.81	4.28	.60	5.73
3	11	2	23	28	Croup	.....		2.97	1.35	2.71	1.68	1.56	2.61
3	9	9	27	5	Diarrhœa	.....		1.81	2.26	.....	.....	1.56	2.61
1	6	6	21	13	Diphtheria	.....		.26	.68	.50	.....	.....	.....
1	3	2	4	9	Dysentery	.....		2.63	9.46	1.31	3.91	1.81	.87
1	3	1	3	3	Erysipelas	.....		.86	1.35	.90	.74	.60	1.56
1	3	1	3	3	Fever	.....		.30	.....	.....	.56	.30	1.56
1	6	4	7	20	Fever, Puerperal	.....		.30	.....	.30	.19	.90	.....
2	6	4	7	3	Fever, Remittent	.....		.17	.....	.40	.....	.....	.....
2	6	6	7	7	Fever, Typhoid and Typhus	.....		1.81	2.03	2.01	1.30	1.20	3.13
1	1	2	3	3	Hooping Cough	.....		.56	.....	.70	1.12	.....	1.74
1	5	8	20	39	Influenza	.....		.26	.....	.30	.37	.52	.....
5	11	75	61	72	Measles	.....		3.23	2.03	3.92	3.72	2.41	2.60
5	11	75	61	72	Purpura	.....		.22	.....	.50	.....	.....	.....
1	1	1	5	5	Pustule, Malignant	.....		.04	.....	.....	.30	.....	.....
5	11	75	61	72	Scarlatina	.....		10.09	6.76	7.23	11.36	22.59	5.73
5	11	75	61	72	Syphilis	.....		.13	.....	.30	.....	.....	4.35
1	4	2	3	3	Thrush	.....		.39	.....	.80	.37	1.20	.....
20	55	107	186	293	39	700	Total	30.17	26.35	29.42	34.64	32.23	28.64
													17.39

TABLE IX. CLASSIFICATION AND PERCENTAGE. CONTINUED.

1	2	1	1	10	..	14	Insanity	..	1.00	.19	..	1.04	.87
..	..	1	1	..	..	2	Neuralgia	..	.09	.19	.30	..	..
4	2	1	5	4	5	21	Paralysis	..	.91	.38	.40	1.04	3.48
1	..	..	..	..	..	1	Tetanus	..	.04	..	..	..	.87
18	21	37	63	138	24	301	Total	.....	12.98	16.21	13.85	11.73	11.15
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	IV. RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.	.....	10.94	10.94	15.65	..	..
2	1	2	1	7	..	2	Asthma	..	.09	..	.20	..	..
24	37	58	105	169	29	422	Bronchitis	..	.56	..	.70	..	.52
3	..	..	..	..	4	1	Consumption	..	18.19	19.59	16.97	19.55	17.47
1	..	..	..	..	3	..	8	Dropsey of Chest	..	.40	..	..	20.87
..	4	..	1	..	..	4	Hemorrhage from Lungs	..	.34	.68	.30	..	..
1	1	..	..	8	14	1	..	..	.17	..	.30	..	2.61
1	1	..	..	2	..	20	Laryngitis	..	.22	..	.19	..	.87
5	7	13	35	75	11	146	Longs, Congestion of	..	.86	.68	.41	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	4	Pleurisy	..	.17	.20	.19	.52	.87
..	..	..	..	..	..	6.29	Pneumonia	..	7.43	7.53	6.52	3.91	4.35
87	50	73	146	276	42	624	Total	.....	26.89	28.38	27.71	27.19	21.99
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	V. CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.	.....	26.04	26.04	21.99	21.99	32.17
6	6	11	7	36	..	1	Aneurism	..	.04	..	.10	..	..
..	..	2	2	2	..	66	Heart, Disease of	..	2.85	..	3.62	1.30	3.31
..	..	1	..	..	..	6	Heart, Malformation of	..	.26	..	.20	.37	3.13
..	..	..	..	..	..	1	Lymphatics, Disease of	..	.04	..	..	.60	5.22
6	7	13	9	39	..	74	Total	.....	3.19	..	3.92	1.68	3.91
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	VI. DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.	.....	3.65	3.65	3.65	3.65	5.22
1	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	Bowels, Cancer of	..	.13	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	Bowels, Hemorrhage from	..	.17	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE IX. CLASSIFICATION AND PERCENTAGE. CONTINUED.

TABLE IX. CLASSIFICATION AND PERCENTAGE. CONTINUED.

DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.		CAUSES OF DEATH.		PERCENTAGE IN EACH DIVISION.									
				Bristol county.	Kent county.	Newport county.	Towns of Prov- idence county.	Washington co.	Providence city.	Whole State.	Percentage in whole State.	Newport county.	Bristol county.
2	2	2	8	5	4	24	Drowning	2.70	.50	1.49	.90	1.04	1.74
..	1	1	2	5	..	9	Exposure and Neglect . . . . .	.39	.50	.37	.30	.52	...
..	..	1	3	4	..	8	Intemperance . . . . .	.34	..	.40	.56	..	...
..	..	..	..	1	..	1	Homicide . . . . .	.04	..	.10	..	..	...
..	..	..	..	2	2	1	Poisoning . . . . .	.22	.68	.20	.37	..	...
..	1	4	1	3	4	..	13 Suicide . . . . .	.56	..	.40	.56	.30	.87
3	12	7	31	35	7	95	Total	4.10	4.73	3.52	5.77	2.11	6.25
3	40	11	183	20	33	290	Unknown . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	2	1	2	1	..	6 Unknown, Sudden . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	3	24	51	83	12	177	Still Born . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..

TABLE X. OCCUPATIONS AND AGES AT DEATH. 1858.

Ages under twenty years, and cases of unspecified age, being omitted.

OCCUPATIONS.	AGES AT DEATH.										Whole Number.	Aggregate age.	Average age.
	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.	80 to 90.	90 to 100.	100 & over.				
Accountant	2	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	5	192	38.40
Artist .....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	52	52.00
Baker....	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	173	57.67
Barber.....	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	91	30.33
Basket-maker .....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	50	50.00
Bell-hanger	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	24	24.00
Blacksmith.....	1	3	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	6	296	49.33
Butcher.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	81	81.00
Cabinet-maker.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	118	59.00
Calico-printer.....	..	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	5	293	58.60
Card-maker .....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	63	63.00
Carpenter.....	3	6	3	4	5	5	1	1	..	28	1,479	52.82	
Carriage-maker.....	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	3	200	66.67
Cigar-maker	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	23	23.00
Clergyman.....	1	1	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	5	257	51.40
Confectioner .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	49	49.00
Cooper.....	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	3	207	69.00
Currier.....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	46	46.00
Die-sinker .....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	33	33.00
Engineer.....	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	150	50.00
Farmer.....	5	4	14	12	24	31	22	4	..	116	7,652	65.97	
Fisherman.....	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	68	68.00
Gard-ner .....	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2	159	79.50
Gas-fitter	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	21	21.00
Gentleman.....	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	4	275	68.75
Grocer.....	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	134	44.67
Hatter.....	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	52	52.00
Hustler.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	23	23.00
Jeweler.....	2	6	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	9	291	32.33
Laborer	19	24	18	12	9	9	3	..	..	94	4,198	44.66
Machinist.....	2	1	..	2	4	..	..	..	..	9	434	48.22
Manufacturer	1	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	4	205	41.25
Mariner	7	2	..	5	..	2	2	..	..	18	831	46.17
Mason .....	..	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	..	6	307	51.17
Mechanic .....	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	81	40.50
Merchant.....	2	3	3	1	1	2	..	1	..	13	636	49.08	
Milliner, (female)	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	23	23.00
Moulder.....	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	83	41.50

TABLE X. OCCUPATIONS AND AGES AT DEATH. CONTINUED.

OCCUPATIONS.	AGES AT DEATH.									Whole number.	Aggregate age.	Average age.
	20 to 30.	30 to 40.	40 to 50.	50 to 60.	60 to 70.	70 to 80.	80 to 90.	90 to 100.	100 & over.			
Nurse, (female).....	1	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	152	50.67
Operative.....	4	3	3	2	3	..	1	..	..	16	709	44.31
Operative, (female).....	3	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	155	31.00
Overseer in mill.....	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	3	163	54.33
Painter.....	2	3	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	7	270	38.57
Physician.....	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	91	45.50
Rope-maker.....	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3	196	65.33
Saddler.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	55	27.50
Sail-maker.....	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	42	42.00
Servant, (female).....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	105	105.00
Ship-master.....	..	1	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	6	407	67.83
Shoe-maker.....	2	1	..	1	5	6	1	..	..	16	969	60.56
Tailor.....	1	..	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	4	226	56.50
Tailoress.....	4	4	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	11	431	39.18
Teacher.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	71	71.00
Teacher, (female).....	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	93	31.00
Teamster.....	1	3	2	1	..	1	..	..	..	8	346	43.25
Tinman.....	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	77	77.00
Trader.....	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	130	43.33
Washerwoman.....	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	30	30.00
Weaver.....	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	3	120	40.00
Weaver, (female).....	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	67	22.33
Males.....	66	70	60	53	73	72	35	8	..	437	23,199	53.09
Females.....	14	5	4	1	..	..	3	..	1	28	1,056	37.71

TABLE XI. OCCUPATION AND CAUSES OF DEATH. 1858.

OCCUPATIONS.	Whole number by which causes.	Whole number by which causes.		Diseases of Consumption.	Diseases of Debility.	Diseases of Diphtheria.	Diseases of Dysentery.	Diseases of Dyspepsy.	Diseases of Dyspnoea.	Diseases of Fever.	Diseases of Gout.	Diseases of Hemorrhage.	Diseases of Hysteria.	Diseases of Inflammation.	Diseases of Insanity.	Diseases of Intemperance and Drunkenness.	Diseases of Injuries.	Diseases of Laryngitis.	Diseases of Leprosy.	Diseases of Malaria.	Diseases of Measles.	Diseases of Mumps.	Diseases of Murder.	Diseases of Old Age.	Diseases of Peritonitis.	Diseases of Pneumonia.	Diseases of Prostate.	Diseases of Puerpera.	Diseases of Rheumatism.	Diseases of Scrofulosis.	Diseases of Spleen.	Diseases of Sputum.	Diseases of Sulphur.	Diseases of Yellow Fever.
		4	3																															
Accountant	3	3																																
Baker	5	1																																
Blacksmith	5	1																																
Calico-printer	27	1																																
Carpenter	5	1																																
Clergyman	106	1																																
Farmer	12	1																																
Gentleman	4	1																																
Gentleman	3	1																																
Grocer	9	1																																
Jeweler	86	1																																
Laborer	1	1																																
Machinist	9	1																																
Manufacturer	3	1																																
Mason	18	3																																
Mason	6	1																																
Merchant	13	1																																
Nurse, (female)	3	1																																
Operative	14	5																																
Operative, (female)	15	1																																
Overseer in mill	9	1																																
Painter	7	1																																
Rope-maker	6	2																																
Ship-master	15	1																																
Tailor	4	1																																
Tailoress	9	1																																
Teacher, (female)	8	1																																
Teamster	8	1																																
Trader	3	1																																
Weaver, (female)	3	1																																
Total	398	2124	18	1	83	84	1	117	3	11	138	6	33	3	3	214	324	214	185	118	5	11	14	139	8	23	1	11	132	61				

SUPPLEMENT TO TABLE XI.

The foregoing table includes every occupation in which as many as *three* deaths, from assigned causes, were reported in the year 1858. The following supplement comprises the remaining occupations, in each of which there occurred but *one* or *two* deaths, of which the causes were specified. In the table and supplement, the cause of death, in connection with the occupation, is given in 435 cases. In both table and supplement, deaths at ages under twenty years are omitted.

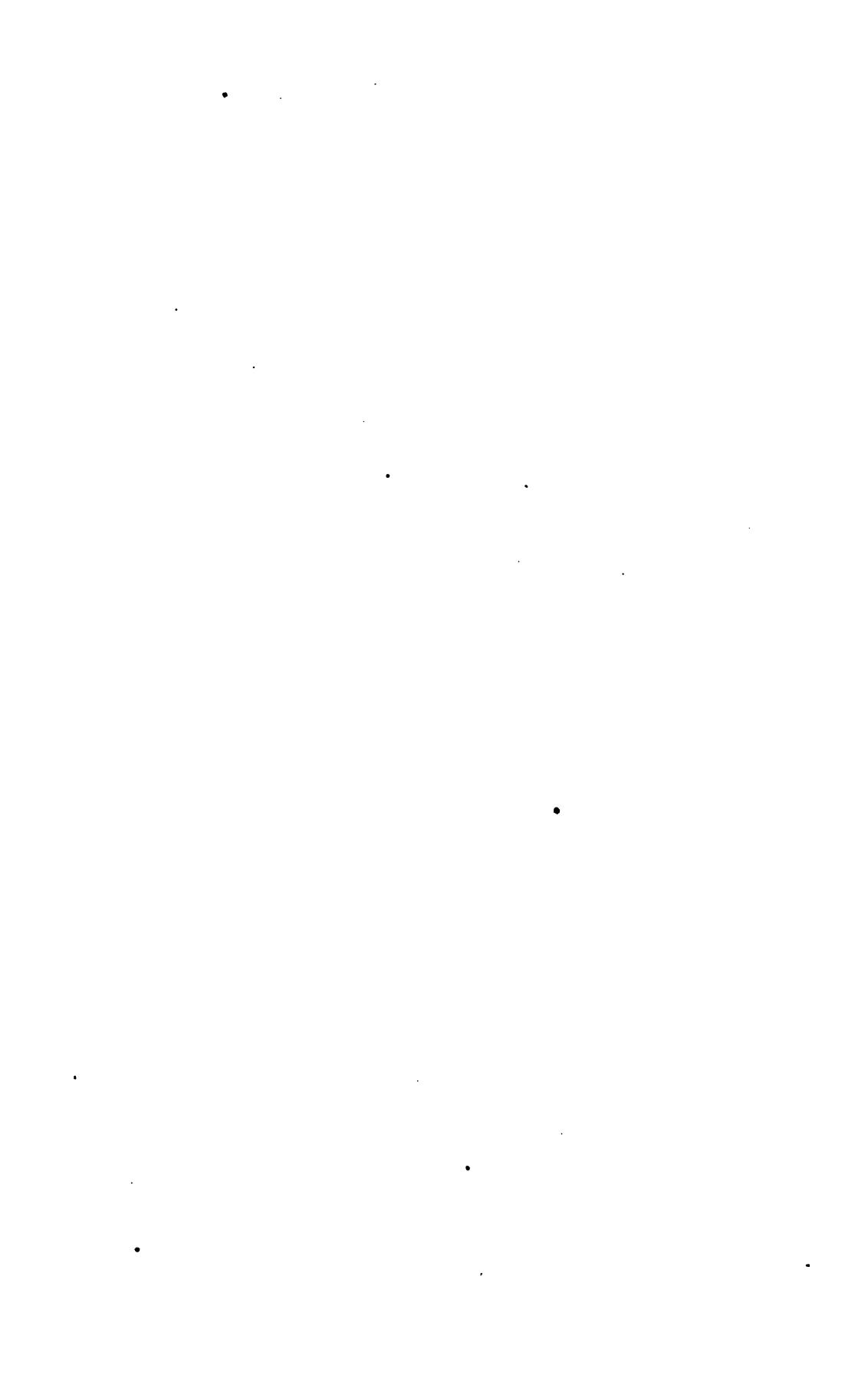
Artist, <i>Insanity.</i>	Gardener, <i>Asthma, Cancer.</i>
Basket-maker, <i>Suicide.</i>	Gas-fitter, <i>Consumption.</i>
Bell-hanger, <i>Consumption.</i>	Hatter, <i>Consumption.</i>
Butcher, <i>Old Age.</i>	Hostler, <i>Suicide.</i>
Cabinet-maker, <i>Consumption, Old Age.</i>	Mechanic, <i>Convulsions, Pneumonia.</i>
Card-Maker, <i>Pneumonia.</i>	Milliner, female, <i>Consumption.</i>
Carriage-maker, <i>Liver-disease.</i>	Moulder, <i>Consumption, Fever, typhoid.</i>
<i>Marasmus.</i>	Physician, <i>Apoplexy, Poison.</i>
Cigar-Maker, <i>Pneumonia.</i>	Saddler, <i>Consumption, Epilepsy.</i>
Confectioner, <i>Pneumonia.</i>	Sail-maker, <i>Apoplexy.</i>
Cooper, <i>Consumption, (two cases.)</i>	Servant, female, <i>Old Age.</i>
Currier, <i>Pneumonia.</i>	Teacher, <i>Bowels, Inflammation of.</i>
Die-anker, <i>Fever, typhoid.</i>	Tinman, <i>Apoplexy.</i>
Engineer, <i>Fever, typhoid, Heart disease.</i>	Washerwoman, <i>Child Birth.</i>
Fisherman, <i>Debility.</i>	

TABLE XII. METEOROLOGICAL.

Showing the average temperature, by three daily observations, of each month, for each one of the last five years, and for the average of twenty-seven years; also the amount of rain and snow in each month, for the year 1858, and for the average of twenty-seven years.

From the observations of PROFESSOR CASWELL, of Brown University, Providence.

MONTHS.	MEAN TEMPERATURE.					Average of 27 years.	RAIN, IN INCHES.	
	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.		1858.	Average of 27 years.
January	26.4	30.0	19.3	16.3	33.1	27.8	3.33	3.16
February	25.6	22.1	22.7	32.7	24.5	26.6	2.80	2.77
March	33.1	32.6	27.8	32.2	32.8	34.2	2.05	3.07
April	42.9	44.1	46.5	41.0	46.2	44.6	3.63	3.67
May	57.7	54.7	53.5	51.8	53.3	55.3	2.35	3.52
June	65.9	65.3	67.7	62.0	67.7	65.5	5.55	3.01
July	72.9	72.9	72.1	69.9	69.8	69.9	4.90	3.06
August	68.6	67.9	69.8	66.8	66.4	68.5	8.20	3.89
September	61.4	61.9	63.2	60.3	62.2	60.9	3.05	2.81
October	52.9	52.4	50.2	50.5	54.2	50.6	2.80	3.79
November	40.7	42.0	39.4	42.3	37.2	39.9	2.40	3.99
December	26.5	32.3	25.5	34.6	32.1	30.1	3.45	4.03
Whole year	48.0	48.2	46.5	46.7	48.3	47.8	44.51	40.61



RESULTS AND OBSERVATIONS.

There were registered in Rhode Island, nearly ten thousand names of individuals born, married, or deceased, during the year 1858. Of these, 4,263 were born; 2,876 were married; and 2,616 died; making a total number of 9,755. If these records were complete, we could set down the natural increase of the population, or that which was independent of migration, as having amounted to 1,647, from the beginning to the end of the year.

The number of births and deaths was greater than was ever before reported in any one year; that of marriages was less than either in 1856 or 1857. The details of these results are exhibited in the tables and observations which make up this report. In our remarks which follow, we shall also introduce some comparisons with former reports, and with results obtained in other States and countries.

The two most interesting subjects that are illustrated in this report are, perhaps, the following:—the condition of public health in different parts of the State and different classes of the inhabitants, and the growth of population. The sanitary relations of the subject will be most generally recognized as important. We begin to learn something of the differences in regard to longevity, health and disease, between the several races of which our people are composed, and between the several towns and regions. Some remarkable contrasts in regard to prevalent diseases appear to depend on the situation and topography of towns. We might certainly expect that diversities of climate, soil, facilities for sup-

ply of water and natural drainage, and other local circumstances, such as exist even within the narrow limits of this State, from the hills of Cumberland to the shores of Seaconet, Newport and the old Narraganset country, and the sea-girt township of Block Island, or, in the other direction, from the coves of Bristol county to the granite ranges of our Western towns, would have some influence on the health of the inhabitants. The effects of these diversities are already illustrated, to some extent, by these statistics. In this view, it would be well if we could make a special grouping of the parts of the State, with reference to their situation, distinct from the civil divisions into counties and towns. When our returns become more full, some such grouping of the towns may be used with advantage. We might, for example, make a southern, or maritime, division,—a second bordering on the waters of Mount Hope Bay and the neighboring rivers, east of the Narraganset,—other divisions of the inland towns, say into those which are principally drained by the Blackstone, the Wonasquatucket, the Pawtuxet and the Pawcatuck, severally,—and lastly, the large city of Providence might be styled the metropolitan division.

But it seems probable that the regions of the State differ in their sanitary characteristics, more on account of the kinds of persons inhabiting them, than from any influences of soil or climate.

By far the most important division of our people is that of race, arising from the large immigration which has introduced a special class of laborers, displaced and driven away many of the sons of Rhode Island, and filled the most compact parts of many villages and towns, particularly in and near the principal city, with families of immediately foreign origin, alien in many of their feelings and habits from the old New England stock. The proportion of foreign families in different places, appears to have more influence on the character of their vital statistics than any circumstances inherent in the localities. Indeed, in all connections of the subject, the peculiarities of the results obtained in this and neighboring States, depend more on the influx of a foreign laboring population than on any other single cause. This is one reason for the great attention given to the distinctions of nativity and parentage in our reports.

Other influences affecting health will be found illustrated in this report, such as color, sex, occupation, &c. It will be obvious, on a little reflection, that single facts, collected on a large scale, for

a considerable period of time, upon a uniform plan, and with the greatest attainable accuracy, furnish the only safe materials for forming opinions on the effects of all these distinctions. The collection of such facts is often left to men of scientific curiosity, or who make a special study of medical subjects. There are certainly advantages in this, in the greater exactness of observation which such men cultivate, and their more definite aims. But their inquiries are very apt to be biased by theories or preconceived belief. A system of registration established by government, furnishes the only means of getting results at once extensive enough, and impartially collected. If to such results be added the testimony of physicians on such points as the nature of the diseases which have caused deaths, which they certainly ought to understand better than anybody else, we have the best outline of a permanent system for obtaining the vital and sanitary statistics of a people.

If all who are born here continued to live in their native places, and there were no migration inward or outward, it is clear that a complete registration of births and deaths would yield all the material necessary for a history of the growth, or the decline, of population. But with us, migration affects these very much; and as this migration depends mainly on the prosperity of the community, a census of the several towns, taken at frequent intervals, would make a very interesting record of their changes of fortune. These topics were forced on our attention by an examination of the returns; and we have prepared a sketch of the past history of the growth of population in different portions of the State, which forms the closing part of this report. Some details of the kind have been given formerly, but not at so much length as this year.

The average temperature and amount of rain or snow in a place or season, may be supposed to influence health, and a record of these seems to be appropriate in such a document as the present. We avail ourselves, for this purpose, of the published reports of Professor Caswell, of Brown University, and have given the most important points of the results obtained by him for five years past. They are exhibited in the last of the preliminary tables.

Table VII. (pages 10-15) is formed on a different plan from the corresponding table in former reports. The object of the table is to show how many die in each period of life, in every part of the State. This is shown more minutely than ever before, the divisions of age being more numerous, and also the figures for each town

being shown separately. It contains all that the table has exhibited in former reports, but more in detail. This table is similar to that which has been presented in the Massachusetts reports for several years past.

B I R T H S.

The number of births recorded in the State, in each of the last four years, has been as follows:

1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
2,926.	2,906.	4,026.	4,263.

The very considerable increase in the year 1857 over 1856, was unquestionably owing mainly to the amendments in the registration law, which went into effect in the middle of that year. The provision which requires town-clerks to *obtain* the information in respect to births in their several towns, works very well; and the improvement is so great as to show that the present plan is founded on the right principle. No part of our registration has improved so much as that of births.

There were 237 *more* births reported in 1858 than in 1857; in Bristol county, 49 *less*; in Kent county, 56 *less*; in Newport county, 13 *more*; in the towns of Providence county, 61 *more*; in the city of Providence, 36 *more*; in Washington county, 232 *more*. In this last county, the number was more than doubled. The greatest improvement has been in a few towns of this county, particularly in the important town of South Kingstown, which has hitherto been exceedingly defective in returns.

It is probable that the number of births in a year, bears a more constant proportion than either the marriages or deaths, to the population of a state; and might be more properly used as a starting point for inferences in regard to the number of inhabitants existing. The fluctuations from year to year are likely to be

greater in the numbers of marriages and deaths;—in the former, from social causes of many kinds, and in the latter from the varying condition of public health, and the occasional prevalence of special epidemic diseases. These influences do indeed affect the number of births in some degree, but less probably than either the marriages or deaths. It would be interesting to use this test, if we could, in determining what have been the movements of population, and the changes in relative growth of different parts of the State, especially when several years have elapsed since the latest census. But in the present condition of our registry, allowance would have to be continually made for deficiencies, which are necessarily variable, and which are tending to lessen, and, as they lessen, to cause an apparent increase in the number of births, distinct from the real increase caused by the growth of population. Hence no safe opinion can be formed in this way of the present number of inhabitants of our several towns, and their gain since the census of 1850.

It is probable that the births are somewhat more numerous, in proportion to the population, in our large city than in other parts of the State; on account, in part, of the greater number of foreigners in the city. But we cannot consider the registration in other towns as having yet become sufficiently full to warrant any positive statements on this point. In Providence city, the births are very accurately recorded; and we have, moreover, the results of a special city census, taken in 1855, to use in our estimates. The City Registrar estimates the population of that city in the middle of the year 1858, at 50,260; which would give one birth in the year to 29.15 inhabitants.

The ratio of the births, reported in 1858, to the population in 1850, is as follows:

In Bristol county,	one birth to 46 inhabitants.
In Kent county,	" " 49 "
In Newport county,	" " 34 "
In towns of Providence county,	" " 46 "
In Providence city,	" " 24 "
In Washington county,	" " 36 "

Every case of twins is counted as two births. The still-born are included in the tables of births. The returns do not distinguish still-born children from those born alive, with sufficient constancy

to make me think it worth while to attempt to separate them. It seems to me, that the objects of a study of births, in all scientific relations of the subject, require all the births of living and dead children alike, that is, all the conceptions, so far as shown by the records, to be counted in. By the time that the registration of births is about as complete as the censuses of population, so that comparisons may be fairly made between the results of both, and those of registration may be used in determining the natural increase of inhabitants, it may be expected that the births of *living* children will be generally distinguished; and in that connection, these data will be valuable. The numbers of still-born children are given in the tables of deaths, and the numbers born alive in each month and each division of the State, may be ascertained by subtracting these from the totals in our tables of births.

NUMBER OF THE CHILD. As in the last report, we have prepared a table to show how many of the children born were *first* children of the parents, how many were *second*, how many *third* children, &c. The City Registrar of Providence, in his annual report, gives these particulars for that city, showing the number of children of the same *mother*. In returns from other towns, it is frequently, but not always, specified whether the figure given refers to the number of children of the mother or father. The number of the child is stated more generally than it has been before.

NUMBER OF THE CHILD. 1858.

First child.....	911	Seventh child.....	136	Thirteenth child.....	10
Second ".....	818	Eighth ".....	112	Fourteenth ".....	6
Third ".....	636	Ninth ".....	74	Fifteenth ".....	1
Fourth ".....	435	Tenth ".....	35	Sixteenth ".....	1
Fifth ".....	346	Eleventh ".....	14		
Sixth ".....	224	Twelfth ".....	16	Total.....	3,775.

Supposing these numbers to represent the children that each mother had had, up to and including the birth registered in the returns before us, we have, this year as the year before, an average of a little more than three children and one-third to each mother. The *first* children are nearly a quarter of all, (about 24 per cent.); and this proportion is nearly the same in the two years, and also in Providence city, for four years.

We have not, either in former reports or now, inquired into the difference in average number of children, between American and foreign mothers, in the State at large. In Providence, this average

is greater in foreign families. The results of this kind, referred to in our last report, (pages 47 and 53,) were obtained by the City Registrar, and borrowed from his report. There seems to have been some want of clearness in our own manner of stating them; but they were correctly understood, by the writer of the sixteenth Massachusetts report, as referring to "the average relative number *already borne* by those still producing offspring."* In Providence, in 1858, the proportion of children already borne was 17 to 5 foreign mothers, and 15 to 5 American mothers.

SEX. In the aggregate of registration, previous to the year now before us, the male children born have been in excess, in the ratio of one hundred and five males to one hundred females. In 1858, the excess of males was still greater; being at the rate of 10,716 males, to 10,000 females; or 51.73 per cent. boys, and 48.27 girls. This does not still raise the total proportion, for our whole series of reports, to the rate observed in Europe, which is one hundred and six male children, to one hundred female. The sixteenth Registration Report of Massachusetts says: "We have not collected as many records as some others, but have examined those of several different cities and states of the Union, also those of England, France, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Saxony, and other foreign countries. The facts furnished us, covering upwards of one hundred million births, show 1,073 boys to every 1,000 girls, born alive. Over one million of recorded births in the United States, show 1,066 boys to 1,000 girls. The records of Massachusetts alone for thirteen years, 1845-57, give only 1,054 boys to 1,000 girls." This last is almost exactly the same as the proportion in the aggregate results of registration in Rhode Island; in which are included 18,977 births of specified sex.

In 1858, the preponderance of males is found in every division of the State, except in Newport county. The only town remarkable, in all parts of our series of reports, for a large proportion of female births, is Warwick. The whole number of male births recorded in that town, from the beginning of our reports, is 226; the female births, are 280.

COLOR.—There were one hundred births of colored children, reported either as black or mulatto, in the year 1858. Of these, 7 were in Bristol county; 3 in Kent county; 17 in Newport coun-

*Sixteenth Registration Report, Massachusetts, p. 184.

ty, all but 3 of these being in the city of Newport; 5 in the towns of Providence county; 17 in Washington county; and, lastly, 51, or more than half of all, in the city of Providence. The colored population has evidently tended very strongly toward the cities. By the census of 1774, Providence contained less than a tenth of the colored persons in the colony; at present, it probably contains about half of all in the State. There were 47 colored males born, and 53 females. Births in January, 9; in February, 7; in March 12; in April, 7; in May, 8; in June, 8; in July, 11; in August, 5; in September, 9; in October, 10; in November, 7; in December, 7. The parents were generally born in the United States; several in the Southern States.

PARENTAGE.—The inquiry into the parentage of children born in our State is probably the most interesting one that arises in this branch of the subject. The great number of children of foreign parents born on our soil, and hence entitled to all the privileges of native citizens, and destined to affect the fortunes and shape the character of the State, is a topic that ought to be clearly presented to the people, and distinctly understood and thoughtfully considered by them. On this account, we have in former reports, prepared tables designed to show the absolute and proportional numbers of births of American and foreign parentage, and of those whose parentage was mixed, or where only one parent was a native of this country. We have exhibited these numbers computed from the tables in past reports added together; and have also adverted to the varying proportions in the several classes from year to year.

The following shows the proportions for five years:

BIRTHS. 1851—1858. INCLUSIVE.

DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.	American.		Foreign.		Mixed.		Total.	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Percent.	No.	Percent.
Bristol county....	646	70.2	212	23.0	63	6.8	921	100.0
Kent county....	703	68.5	283	27.5	41	4.0	1,027	100.0
Newport county..	1,466	68.8	525	24.6	140	6.6	2,131	100.0
Towns, Prov. co..	1,356	49.8	1,252	45.9	118	4.3	2,726	100.0
Providence city...	3,333	41.4	4,192	52.1	518	6.5	8,043	100.0
Washington co....	794	84.3	118	12.5	30	3.2	942	100.0
Whole State.....	8,298	52.6	6,582	41.7	910	5.7	15,790	100.0

In 1858, the whole number of births whose parentage is indicated in the returns is 4,224. These were divided in the following

proportions: both parents American, 52.9 per cent.; both foreign, 40.8 per cent.; father American and mother foreign, 3.0 per cent.; father foreign and mother American, 3.3 per cent. The births of American parentage were 260 *more* than in the year 1857, those of foreign parentage were 60 *less*; those of mixed parentage, 40 *more*; those of unspecified parentage, 3 *less*. So the increase in number of births over the year before, was mainly confined to the American class. In regard to marriages, we shall see that, on the contrary, those in the American class considerably diminished, while those of the foreigners increased.

It may be interesting to show the changes in the proportion of each class for a few years past. The returns previous to 1854, were too scanty to be of much value. The following have been the percentages for five years.

	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
American,	54.7	53.8	53.5	49.6	52.9
Foreign,	40.6	40.5	40.6	44.7	40.8
Mixed,	4.7	5.7	5.9	5.7	6.3

This view shows that the ratios of American and foreign, were very nearly the same in 1858 as they had been in the three years preceding 1857. In that year, there appears the only remarkable variation from the general average, being a decided increase in the ratio of foreign parentage. Admixture between the two classes would appear to be somewhat increasing, if we can venture to judge from such scanty materials. This admixture may spring from the union of American men with foreign women, or the reverse. In five years, the cases of one kind have been almost exactly as numerous as of the other; 456 of the first, and 454 of the second.

The Registration Reports of Massachusetts for three years, 1855 to 1857 inclusive, contain the particulars of 97,163 births, of specified parentage.—the percentages being as follows: American, 49.5; foreigners, 44.8: mixed, 5.7. From this and other parts of the results of registration, we infer that the proportion of foreigners is still greater in that State than in ours.

The following table shows more minutely the nativity of the parents of those children whose births were recorded in Rhode Island, in the year 1858. It illustrates the proportions of the dif-

ferent races among our inhabitants, especially the great preponderance of Irish, and also the kinds of admixture which are taking place. The aggregates of American and foreign respectively, are a little less than in the previous tables of this report; for the reason that, in former tables, the cases where the nativity of only one parent was reported, were classed according to the nativity of that parent; while in the present tables such cases are distinguished.

PARENTAGE. 1858.

NATIVITY OF FATHERS.	NATIVITY OF MOTHERS.							Whole number fathers.
	United States.	Ireland.	Great Britain.	Germany.	British America.	Other foreign.	Unknown	
United States	2,194	72	43	..	11	3	15	2,338
Ireland	42	1,316	34	..	16	..	1	1,400
Great Britain.....	62	46	193	..	5	2	..	308
Germany	4	6	3	55	1	..	..	69
British America....	12	5	..	..	20	..	..	37
Other foreign	18	6	..	1	..	9	..	34
Unknown.....	25	2	2	..	..	..	39	68
Whole No. mothers	2,357	1,453	275	56	53	14	55	4,263

One third of the men who appear on these records as having had children born within the year, in the whole State, were natives of Ireland. In Providence city, the number of Irish fathers was almost exactly equal to that of American fathers; American being 771, and Irish 763; the Irish amounting to 44 per cent. of all in that city. The proportion of foreign fathers to the whole number of fathers, and also that of Irish to foreign fathers, is greater in that city than in other parts of the State. The records of parentage contain the names of natives of France, Sweden, Norway, Holland, Prussia, Poland, Hungary, Italy, Switzerland, Spain, Portugal, the Azores, the West Indies, Siam, China and Australia.

SEASON. Our results offer no points of particular interest as to the differences between the several seasons. There were 125 more births in the last than the first half of the year. The four quarters had the following numbers, respectively: first quarter, 1,050; second quarter, 1,019; third quarter, 1,088; fourth quarter, 1,106.

If we add together the numbers recorded in each month for six years, 1853—1858 inclusive, and calculate the percentage of births that occurred within each month, reducing the months to periods

of equal length, so as to ascertain the actual influence of season, we obtain the results which are presented in the following table. January had more births in the six years than February; but this was owing to its having more days for births to occur in; and the equalized or *per diem* percentage for January is the smallest for any month, while that of February is full as great as the average. Fifteen births, of which the date was not reported, are omitted in this table.

BIRTHS. 1853—1858, INCLUSIVE.

MONTHS.	NUMBER.	PER DIEM PERCENTAGE.
January.....	1,419	7.73
February.....	1,383	8.35
March.....	1,571	8.56
April.....	1,448	8.16
May.....	1,506	8.21
June.....	1,469	8.28
July.....	1,536	8.37
August.....	1,600	8.72
September.....	1,484	8.36
October.....	1,553	8.46
November.....	1,518	8.55
December.....	1,514	8.25
Total.....	18,011	100.00

MARRIAGES.

In our last report, we mentioned that the returns for 1857 showed a slight lessening in the number of marriages. The actual difference between the numbers reported in 1856 and 1857 amounted to only nine; but an analysis of the results made it evident that the lessening was real, and was greater in the actual truth than appeared on our records, being partly concealed by the improvement in fullness of the registration. There was good reason to believe that this diminution was occasioned by the depressed condition of business and labor, following the extraordinary financial disturbances of the autumn of 1857. It ought to be mentioned however, that, in Massachusetts, the number of marriages lessened each year from 1854 to 1857, falling off one seventh in the whole

three years. In that State, the system of registration has been established for many years, and no doubt is more fully carried out than in Rhode Island, and the results for successive years may be compared together, with more safety. It would seem probable that marriages had actually diminished in Massachusetts, for three or four years; and it is impossible to say that the same has not been the case in Rhode Island, the registration not having been complete enough to show this certainly.

In examining the tables for 1858, we find a still more decided lessening in the number of marriages recorded. The totals for four successive years, in the whole State, are as follows:

1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
1,375.	1,535.	1,526.	1,438.

At the same time, we have many proofs that the registration for 1858 was more complete than in any former year.

A more minute inquiry into the particulars of this diminution of marriages, may be interesting. First, as to locality. The year 1858 showed fewer marriages than either of the two preceding years, in Kent and Newport counties, in the city of Providence and in the towns of Providence county. Nearly all the diminution was in the city and county of Providence. In the city, this diminution was continuous, the numbers for the three successive years running thus, 656, 614, and 560,—a falling off of more than one seventh in two years. In Bristol and Washington counties, on the other hand, more marriages were reported in 1858 than in either of the two previous years. In the latter county, this was plainly owing to improved registration. In Bristol county, also, there was probably some improvement in regard to the returns of marriages of foreigners. The towns of Warwick and Fall River, which have a large share of manufacturing labor and foreign population, show fewer marriages in 1858 than the year before. Newport city reports more.

Secondly, we may compare the different parts of the year. Every month of the year 1858 had fewer marriages, according to the returns, than the corresponding month of the year before, with the exception of November and December. In each of those two months, there were more in 1858 than in 1857. The depressing causes which seem to have discouraged matrimony in the last few months of 1857, lowering the number of marriages in November

and December of that year, very remarkably, would appear to have continued in operation for about twelve months, and then to have been followed by a kind of reaction, shown by a decided increase of weddings. The number reported for November, 1858, was greater than in any other month in our whole series of reports.

In consequence of these fluctuations, the marriages for last year were rather peculiarly distributed through the several quarters of the year, there being a smaller proportion than common in the months of April, May and June, and a larger proportion in the fourth quarter. The following table shows this, by contrasting the proportion in each quarter for the year 1858 with that for each of the three years previous, and for the aggregate of five years.

MARRIAGES. *Percentage in the several quarters of the year.*

QUARTERS OF THE YEAR.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1853-1857, inclusive.	1858.
January—March.....	20.7	21.7	21.2	21.8	20.8
April—June.....	24.7	26.2	25.6	25.0	21.8
July—September.....	25.3	22.1	25.1	24.2	25.0
October—December.....	29.3	30.0	28.1	29.0	32.4
Total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Thirdly, the most remarkable point in respect to the diminution of marriages is, that it was entirely confined to the American class. In 1858, there were 88 fewer marriages in the whole State than in 1857; marriages of parties born in the United States, 119 *less*; of parties both foreign-born, 29 *more*; of American to foreign parties, or mixed marriages, 5 *more*; of marriages of persons whose nativity was not reported, 3 *less*. So, in the city of Providence, the American marriages were 101 *less* than the year before; foreign marriages were 39 *more*; and Irish marriages were 23 *more*. It would be interesting to know the reasons for this difference between the statistics for the two classes, and this decided increase of foreign marriages, in the face of a remarkable interruption of those kinds of labor which employ a large part of our foreign population. The facts seem to illustrate the improvidence of a great part of the foreign laborers, and to show that they were much less generally deterred from assuming the new responsibilities of marriage than the employers, the traders and more educated inhabitants of the city and villages, to which the diminution we are considering was almost confined.

The proportion of marriages in which both parties were born in

this country was smaller in 1858 than in any year since 1855. The percentages of purely American marriages have been as follows, for five years:

1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
67.26.	58.71.	61.24.	65.24.	60.81.

Their proportion had increased every year since 1855, till the year we are now considering, and then fell very considerably. The percentage of marriages in which both parties were foreign-born, in 1858, was 29.43; marriages of American males to foreign females, 5.30 per cent.; of foreign males to American females, 4.46 per cent. The foreign were more numerous than the American, in no place except Fall River, where there were only six marriages of couples both born in this country, and forty-nine where both were born in other countries. All but thirteen of the marriages in that town are returned as marriages of non-residents; the Catholic priest there evidently enjoying a considerable popularity in the adjacent part of Massachusetts.

The following table shows the proportions of American, foreign, and mixed nativity, among those married within five years past, in each division of the State. By mixed nativity, we mean cases where one of the parties was born in this country, and the other in some foreign country. Cases where the nativity of both the parties was unspecified, are omitted.

MARRIAGES. 1854—1858. INCLUSIVE.

DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.	American.		Foreign.		Mixed.		Total.	
	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Per cent.	No.	Percent.
Bristol county....	233	76.7	45	14.8	28	8.5	304	100.0
Kent county.....	478	82.0	80	13.7	25	4.3	583	100.0
Newport county...	465	54.4	309	36.2	80	9.4	854	100.0
Towns, Prov. co...	1,104	66.3	417	25.1	144	8.6	1,665	100.0
Providence city...	1,587	53.3	1,083	36.4	308	10.3	2,978	100.0
Washington co....	398	68.9	27	6.0	23	5.1	448	100.0
Whole State.....	4,265	62.4	1,961	28.7	606	8.9	6,832	100.0

A comparison of this table with corresponding ones in earlier reports, will show that the differences between the several portions of the State are lessening; the proportion of foreign marriages, as reported, having increased in all other parts beside Providence. Much of this is undoubtedly owing to improved registration. The marriages of the more favored and more educated classes were more fully reported, in the earlier periods of registration: as the

objects of the law become better understood, all classes come more fully within the reach of its beneficent operations.

The Registration Reports of Massachusetts have contained, in three years, 1855—1857 inclusive, a total of 36,333 marriages. Of 730 of these, the nativities were not reported. The proportions, in those which were reported, were as follows: American, 56.2 per cent.; foreign, 35.6 per cent.; mixed, American and foreign, 8.2 per cent. The proportion of foreign marriages is considerably larger than in our State. In the city of Boston, the foreign were a good deal more numerous than the American marriages, in each of these years.

In all portions of this State, the marriages of Irish form the greater part of those of foreign nativity. In the city of Providence, the men of foreign birth who were married, were 235; Irish, 162; other foreign, 73. In the aggregate of all other parts of the State, the foreign males married, were 249, Irish, 155, other foreign, 94. The marriages of Germans occurred mostly in Smithfield and Warren; those of Canadians, mostly in Cumberland. The following table shows the precise nativity of the persons married in the whole State, in the year 1858. It illustrates the kinds of intermarriage between natives of different countries.

MARRIAGES. 1858.

NATIVITY OF MALES.	NATIVITY OF FEMALES.							Whole number of males.
	United States.	Ireland.	Great Britain.	British America.	Germany.	Other foreign.	Unknown	
United States	865	38	29	8	1	..	4	945
Ireland.....	17	291	4	2	..	..	3	317
Great Britain.....	33	20	52	4	..	..	..	109
British America...	7	..	..	8	..	..	..	15
Germany	1	5	1	1	22	1	..	31
Other foreign	6	..	2	1	..	3	..	12
Unknown.....	3	2	..	..	..	..	4	9
Whole No. females	932	356	88	24	23	4	11	1,438

The table shows that, in 865 cases, both parties married were born in the United States; in 291 cases, both were born in Ireland; in 17 cases, the man was born in Ireland, and the woman in the United States, and in 38 cases, it was the other way, &c. The records of marriages contain the names of natives of France, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Switzerland, Manilla, the Azores, and the West Indies.

AGE.—The age at which persons of either sex are married, is a subject of much interest. We have prepared means of illustra-

ting it more fully in this report than in any which have preceded. We have formerly calculated only the percentages of each sex whose marriage fell within each divisional period of life. This is the easier mode to compute; but the results are not so easily used for purposes of comparison, as a statement of the average age at marriage. This average has accordingly been calculated for 1858. As the average for each division of the State was obtained separately, and a comparison between the several divisions may become interesting in the course of time, we will show these aggregates and averages in tabular form. In this table, no distinction is made between first and subsequent marriages.

AGES AT MARRIAGE. 1858.

DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.	MALES.			FEMALES.		
	Number at given ages	Aggregate age.	Average age.	Number at given ages.	Aggregate age.	Average age.
Bristol county	75	2,040	27.20	75	1,715	22.87
Kent county.....	129	3,311	25.67	129	3,009	23.33
Newport county.....	193	5,395	27.95	193	4,669	24.19
Towns. Prov. county..	334	9,131	27.34	334	7,895	23.64
Providence city.....	580	15,850	28.30	560	13,702	24.47
Washington county	128	3,594	28.65	125	2,986	23.89
Whole State.....	1,417	39,321	27.75	1,416	33,976	24.00

In the city of Newport, the average age of the males married, was 27.70; of females, 24.43. Taking, for the purpose of broad contrast, the city of Providence on one hand, and all the rest of the State on the other, we find the average for Providence nearly a year greater than in the rest of the State. In the aggregate of all parts of the State, out of Providence city, the average age at marriage was, for males, 27.39; for females 23.68.

The next table exhibits the per centage of marriages in each period of life, for 1858, for the two sexes separately, and in such a manner as to contrast the city of Providence with the remainder of the State. It of course shows the different peculiarities of the city more in detail. We see that the proportion of marriages within each period under twenty-five, for the male sex, is less in Providence than in the remainder of the State, the difference at the ages under twenty being quite considerable. In the female sex, the marriages of persons under twenty years of age are decidedly less frequent in Providence than out of it; but between twenty and thirty, the proportion is greater in the city.

PERCENTAGE MARRIED AT DIFFERENT AGES. 1858.

		Under 20	20 to 25	25 to 30	30 to 40	40 to 50	50 & over.	Total.
		MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES	MALES
MALES	Whole State.....	4.4	41.1	27.9	17.3	5.4	3.9	100.0
	Providence city.....	3.2	39.1	28.4	18.5	6.3	4.5	100.0
	Rest of the State.....	5.1	42.4	27.5	16.6	4.8	3.6	100.0
FEMALES	Whole State.....	24.9	42.2	18.7	9.6	3.3	1.3	100.0
	Providence city.....	19.1	45.0	22.2	9.1	3.2	1.4	100.0
	Rest of the State.....	28.6	40.3	16.5	9.9	3.4	1.3	100.0

Marriages at a very early age appear to have been somewhat less frequent in 1858 than in previous years. No girls were married whose reported age was less than 14; and only one acknowledged that age; her husband's age was 30. Ten brides were aged 15; and thirty-nine were aged 16. In the city of Providence, ten were aged 16; none were reported as younger than that. Three females were married, for the first time, at ages over 50; the oldest single female married being 57. The oldest couple were a widower aged 79, and a widow aged 77.

The proportion of very early marriages is considerably smaller in Massachusetts than in Rhode Island. This difference was noticed in a former report, and there is good reason to believe that it is constant. I do not know how to explain it. In the year 1857, the percentage of males married in Massachusetts under twenty years old, was only 1.6; that of females married under twenty was 22.7. In Rhode Island, in 1858, as shown by our last table, the percentages were, for males 4.4, and for females 24.9.

NUMBER OF THE MARRIAGE.—The following table shows the number of times that each person had been married.

NUMBER OF THE MARRIAGE. 1858.

MALES. NUMBER OF MARRIAGE.	FEMALES. NUMBER OF THE MARRIAGE.					Whole number Males.
	First.	Second.	Third	Fourth.	Not stated.	
First.....	1,083	72	3	..	2	1,160
Second.....	170	62	4	1	1	238
Third.....	13	8	3	..	..	24
Fourth.....	1	..	1	..	..	2
Not stated.....	..	1	..	..	13	14
Whole No. Females....	1,267	143	11	1	16	1,438

The proportion of first marriages of both parties was a very little larger in 1858 than in 1857, being each year about 76 per cent. of all. It is a little smaller in Providence city than in other parts of the State. Subsequent marriages are more frequent in the male than the female sex.

D E A T H S.

The number of deaths recorded in each of the last four years has been as follows:

1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
1,846.	2,042.	2,325.	2,616.

There has been a steady increase in the reported mortality; but there is good reason to believe that, in the year 1857, this increase depended on improvement in the completeness of registration, and there were not really more deaths in that year than the year before. In our present report, we cannot ascribe the excess for the year now before us to any such cause. There was indeed some gain in the fullness of registration, but some of our most fatal diseases were also unusually destructive in 1858, and probably there were really more deaths than in the previous year. The number of deaths is greater than has ever been registered in any manner in any former year. If we may judge from the reports of Providence city, which contains so large a proportion of the population as to be generally a fair index of the whole State, the mortality was greater in 1854, when cholera was epidemic, than in any year since; and was less in 1857 than in any one of the last five years.

The City Registrar estimates the proportion of deaths to population, in Providence, in 1858, as being a little more than two deaths in a hundred inhabitants,—or one death in 49.42 of the population. This is very nearly the average proportion for four years past.

The ratio of the deaths reported in 1858 to the population in 1850 was as follows, in different portions of the State:

In Bristol county,	one death to 72 inhabitants.
In Kent county,	" " 64 "
In Newport county,	" " 58 "
In towns of Providence county,	" " 64 "
In Providence city,	" " 41 "
In Washington county,	" " 91 "

There were 291 *more* deaths reported, in the whole State, in 1858 than in 1857; in Bristol county, 29 *less*; in Kent county, 22 *less*; in Newport county, 28 *more*; in the towns of Providence county, 117 *more*; in the city of Providence, 92 *more*; in Washington county, 105 *more*. The only part of this increase which was unquestionably, to a considerable extent, caused by improved registration, is that in Washington county; the principal increase in the actual mortality was probably in Providence county.

SEASON.—We find the increase of deaths in 1858 was wholly in the first eight months of the year. Each of the last four months had fewer deaths than the corresponding month of the preceding year. Neither of the two years has shown so great an excess of mortality in the hot months, from July to October, as is usually observed. August takes the lead in the year 1858, as it generally does; but it is almost equaled by April. Influenza and some kindred affections were quite fatal toward the close of 1857; and scarlatina became epidemic and severely destructive in some places, especially in Newport, near the end of that year, causing the peculiar distribution of deaths through the several seasons. Scarlatina and measles continued very fatal in Providence and Newport counties, in the earlier part of 1858. The deaths in the four quarters of these two years were as follows:

	1857.	1858.
January—March,	513,	688,
April—June,	453,	658,
July—September,	640,	699,
October—December,	719,	571.

Through the first three quarters of the year, the excess in 1858 amounted to 439, or nearly 50 a month.

In our last report, we showed, by a table, what percentage of all the deaths fell within each quarter of the year, in each of the five years, 1853 to 1857 inclusive. The following table gives the percentages for the aggregate of those five years, and in comparison with them, those for 1858. Every year added to the numbers used in computation gives us more nearly a correct general average for our State; unless it be a year in which some extraordinary cause has produced some great peculiarities in the mortality of the several seasons. Such a cause occurred in the cholera of 1854, in

which year more than forty per cent. of all the deaths occurred in July, August and September.

PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER.

	1853—1857.	1858.
January—March,	22.79	26.29
April—June,	20.53	25.16
July—September,	31.93	26.71
October—December,	24.75	21.84
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total,	100.00	100.00

Of the individual months, each of the first six months had a higher percentage in 1858 than the average for the five years previous; each of the last six months had a lower percentage, excepting only December.

The proportions for the several months would be slightly altered, if we introduced a correction to make up for the differences in length of the months. We give, in the following table, the number of deaths in each month for the aggregate of six years; together with the *per diem* percentage for each month. Eleven deaths are omitted, on account of the months they occurred in not having been specified.

DEATHS. 1853—1858, INCLUSIVE.

MONTHS	NUMBER.	PER DIEM PERCENTAGE.
January,	922	7.68
February,	885	8.12
March,	971	8.09
April,	897	7.72
May,	850	7.08
June,	794	6.84
July,	1,007	8.39
August,	1,406	11.71
September,	1,214	10.45
October,	1,008	8.39
November,	899	7.74
December,	933	7.79
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total,	11,786	100.00

AGE. One of the most interesting differences between the year 1858 and that which preceded it, was in the proportionate mortal-

ity at different ages. The earlier year was the most fatal to old persons, much more so than usual; while, in 1858, the deaths of children were in higher proportion than common. Nearly all the excess of 1858 over 1857 was in the deaths of young persons; the excess being, in the deaths of children under a year old, 80; from one to two years old, 72; from two to five, 90; total at ages under five, 242. Under ten years old, the excess amounted to 279; and under twenty, to 297. At ages over twenty, there were 10 less deaths in 1858; and at unspecified ages, 4 more.

The following table exhibits the percentages of deaths occurring in the several periods of age, for each of the five years past. Unspecified ages are excluded.

PERIODS OF LIFE.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
Under 1	14.0	17.9	17.9	17.3	18.5
1 and under 2.....	10.9	11.1	9.5	9.9	11.6
2 " 5.....	10.2	9.2	11.4	9.4	11.7
All under 5	35.1	38.2	38.8	36.6	41.8
5 and under 10.....	4.5	4.1	7.0	4.9	5.8
10 " 20.....	5.9	5.0	5.8	6.1	6.1
20 " 30.....	11.8	10.0	9.5	10.0	7.6
30 " 40.....	10.6	8.2	8.0	8.3	7.2
40 " 50.....	9.7	7.1	7.1	6.9	6.6
50 " 60.....	6.5	7.8	6.9	6.9	6.1
60 " 70.....	5.6	7.0	5.1	6.7	6.9
70 " 80.....	5.8	6.6	7.1	7.8	6.8
80 " 90.....	3.8	4.9	4.1	4.6	4.3
90 and over.....	.7	1.1	.8	1.2	.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

This table, to any who will examine it, illustrates strikingly the differences between the successive years. Each has had its peculiarities, the reasons of which might be ascertained by a more minute analysis, and have been more or less perfectly explained in our former reports. We see the high mortality within the most vigorous and productive age of life, in the year 1854, when cholera was epidemic; the increased proportion of deaths of children in the two following years; the unusual fatality among aged persons in 1857, which was a subject of remark in our last report; and lastly, the high rate of mortality among children in the year 1858, higher than in either of the former years, at each period of life below five.

In Providence, the proportion of deaths in childhood is uniformly found to be higher than in the State at large. In that city, more than a fifth (20.5 per cent.) of the deaths in 1858, were in the first year of life; and nearly one-half, (45.3 per cent.) were under five.

In Massachusetts, in the five years, 1853 to 1857, inclusive, the deaths under one year old were 20.3 per cent., and those under five were 39.7 per cent., of all at specified ages. In the same period, in Boston, those under one year were 24.2 per cent., and those under five were 47.7 per cent.

The average age at death is shown in our first preliminary table. As might be inferred from what we have said, it was considerably smaller in 1858 than usual. It was less by two years and a half than in 1857; and less by a year and three-quarters than in the average of all reports previous to the present. The grand average, in the whole six years of Rhode Island registration, is 27.82 or nearly twenty-eight years. The average age at death, in Massachusetts, in the three years, 1855, 1856 and 1857, was 27.27.

We have mentioned in former reports some of the circumstances that influence the average longevity in different parts of our State. It is greater in the agricultural portions, smallest in the principal city and the towns adjacent to it, and in those manufacturing villages that contain the most foreign laborers with their families. In the year 1858, the average for Providence, was almost precisely twenty-four years. In each of the three adjacent towns, North Providence, Johnston and Cranston, it was smaller than that. Only one other town, Westerly, had so small an average, and the returns from that town were probably quite incomplete. It is well known that the towns contiguous to Providence, contain a large population which is directly dependent for support on the business of that city, and is in great degree allied to that part of the city population which is most disposed to multiply by births, and placed under the least favorable circumstances for health.* The reported average for the towns of Providence county is a little greater than that for the city, a little more than twenty-four years and a half; that for Newport county is twenty-nine years; that for each of the other three counties is about thirty-two. The contrast between agricultural regions and manufacturing villages, has been shown by the division of Tiverton into two towns; the town that still retains that name presenting an average longevity more than twice as great as that of Fall River.

*In one of these suburban districts in the immediate neighborhood of large manufacturing establishments, there were fifty births in seventy-one families, in 1858. That rate in Providence, in 1855. (the year of the last census,) would have given more than four times as many births as actually took place.

The average age at death is pretty uniformly greater among females than males. In the year before us, this difference was uncommonly marked, amounting to almost five years.

The influence of race on longevity, in our community, has been illustrated very clearly in the registration reports of Providence city. The average age at death among persons of American parentage, is much greater than among those of foreign parentage; in 1858, it was not much less than twice as great, the average being, in the American class, 31.07, in the foreign class, 16.78. This difference is greatest in the months when summer complaints are prevalent, as seen by the following figures:

	August.	September.
Average age, American parentage,	21.43	34.31
" " Foreign "	7.08	6.88

The colored race presents a somewhat higher average than the white. But in Providence, the mean longevity of white persons of *American parentage* who died in 1858, was greater than that of the colored. The City Registrar's report says: "Deducting the average age of the colored persons from the whole number of American parentage, it gives an average age to the white American persons who died, more than two years greater than that of the colored."

Some of the particulars in regard to deaths at the age of ninety or over have been noted for a few years past. In 1858, twenty such deaths were recorded. In four years past, there have been 82; males, 33; females, 49; at the age of 90, twenty-two; at 91, seventeen; at 92, thirteen; at 93, six; at 94, eight; at 95, two; at 96, one; at 97, four; at 98, three; at 99, 100, 101, 103, 105, 108, each one. Deaths in summer, thirteen; in each of the other three seasons, twenty-three. One of these deaths was ascribed to each of the following causes, erysipelas, disease of the heart, dropsy, dysentery, senile gangrene, paralysis; two to each of the following, cancer, influenza, pneumonia; all the rest was attributed to old age. The only centenarian whose death was recorded in 1858, was a female servant, a widow, born in Africa, who died in Newport, in May, at the age of 105.

PARENTAGE AND NATIVITY.—The nativity of the parents of those who died is specified more frequently in the returns for 1858, than previously. The classification by parentage is undoubtedly far

more instructive than that by the nativity of the deceased, for reasons which have been shown in former reports. This point is admirably illustrated in a special article on the subject, in the last report of the City Registrar of Providence. The difference is more important in the registration of cities than of country towns. We have thought the present year a favorable time for introducing the classification by parentage into the general abstract which forms our first preliminary table; as the last report contained a recapitulation of all the results of registration up to that time, and the present one may therefore be considered as beginning a new series. We are pleased therefore, to find that the term, parentage, has more generally been correctly understood, and the returns are more full on this point than ever before.

The deaths of persons of American parentage, were 213 *more* in 1858 than in 1857; of foreign parentage, 291 *more*; of unspecified parentage, 213 *less*. As the foreign parentages form considerably less than half, the increase of mortality was much the greatest, proportionally, in that class. In the towns of Providence county, the deaths of foreign parentage outnumber the American. In Providence city, those in the two classes are very nearly equal. In all other divisions of the State, the deaths of Americans are much the most numerous.

In 1858, there were 1,428 deaths of American parentage, that is, of persons whose *fathers* were stated to be natives of the United States; 762 of Irish parentage; 155 English and Scotch; 19 British American; 18 German; 7 "French," (some of them French Canadian;) 4 Norwegian; 3 West Indian; 2 Dutch; 2 Italian; 1 each, Swiss, Spanish, Portuguese, and African, (the latter being the centenarian;) 2 were only specified as of foreign parentage.

In three years past, the deaths of specified parentage have been, American, 3,438; foreign, 2,293; or about three American to two foreign. The percentages are very nearly as follows: American, 60 per cent.; all foreign, 40 per cent.; Irish, 31 per cent. In the same three years, the percentages in Providence city have been: American, 52.41; all foreign, 47.59; Irish, 38.08.

The following table shows the numbers of persons of American and foreign nativity who died in 1858, in the several divisions of the State.

DEATHS. 1858.

DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.	American.	Irish.	Other foreign.	Not specified.	Total.
Bristol county	110	4	3	1	118
Kent county.....	217	6	5	5	234
Newport county.....	309	21	11	3	344
Towns, Prov. county...	578	103	29	12	722
Providence city.....	826	150	41		1,017
Washington county....	162	2	2	15	181
Whole State.....	2,202	286	92	36	2,616

The whole number of deaths of persons whose nativity was specified as foreign, was 378. Percentages, (omitting the unspecified,) American, 85.35; foreign, 14.65. The "other foreign," in the above table were as follows: natives of England and Scotland, 65; of British America, 13; of German States, 7; Norway, 2; Africa, 2; Holland, West Indies and South America, each 1.

The proportion of deaths of persons of foreign nativity was less than it has been in any year for at least five years past; but that of foreign parentage was greater than in 1857. This shows the increasing importance of recording and examining the distinction of parentage, since the mortality in foreign families, among the young children in such families particularly, has increased, while that of actual natives of foreign countries has lessened. The sanitary condition of the greater part of the Irish population especially, is peculiar, different from that of the generality of the American families. But as immigration has lessened, while the adults of foreign birth show remarkable marrying and reproductive capacity, it follows that the influence of this peculiar sanitary condition, as recorded in the lists of mortality, must be sought among the children of foreigners, born here. The full development of this idea is one of the most valuable points in the excellent reports of the City Registrar of Providence. The whole subject is indeed much more important in relation to the sanitary state of cities. But our present report shows that it is also of interest in some other parts of the State, mostly in Providence county, and especially in those towns which are contiguous to Providence.

COLOR. There were 83 deaths of colored persons registered in 1858, being 17 less than the births of colored children. The males were 46; females, 37. Fifty of these were in the city of Providence. Their average age, in that city, was 29.30 years; in all other parts of the State, 38.13; in the whole State, 32.68.

SEX. There was in 1858, as usually, a greater number of female than male deaths, in the State. In the city of Providence, on the other hand, there are more deaths of males in a series of years, though not in 1858. This difference between cities and States has been noticed elsewhere, and is difficult to account for. In Providence, there were more male deaths among the foreign population, and more female deaths among those of American parentage, in 1858. Again, the male sex is more liable to death in early childhood. Both of these facts would tend to turn the nearly equipoised balance of mortality between the sexes, since there are in cities more families of immediately foreign descent, and also more deaths of young children, than in the same population in country towns.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Of the 2,616 deaths registered in 1858, 2,320 have some cause assigned. This leaves about one-ninth without specified causes, being not very far from the average proportion in past years. We think the improvement in this part of the registration is shown in a more correct use of terms, rather than in the number of deaths for which some cause is named. There is, however, a great margin of error inseparable from such statistical results, when drawn from different towns, where different views of disease, and modes of using terms, prevail among physicians. Our State has probably as good a law on this subject as exists in any of the States, and one which could not well be materially improved, in the present state of society. It remains for physicians to do their duty in certifying, as accurately as possible, the causes of deaths that take place in their practice. By so doing, they will only be meeting the State government half-way, in the maintenance of a system which ought to interest them professionally, and which is intimately connected with the general welfare.

We present the usual tables on the subject of causes of death, illustrating the facts in regard to the several causes, for the year 1858, in connection with age, sex, season and locality. The numbers of either sex who died by every cause, in each month of the year, and in each of twelve divisional periods of life, may be learned by an examination of Table VIII. (pp. 16—23.) And in Table IX. (pp. 24—30,) the several causes are classified, and the absolute and proportional numbers of deaths, by each class of causes, and each of the more important single causes, in each one of the six divisions of the State, and in the entire State, are shown.

The class of *ZYMOTIC DISEASES* is the most interesting to study, both on account of their offering the most considerable variations in successive years, and being also considered an important test of the comparative healthiness of places. We still use the term in the sense indicated in the second report, as implying diseases which are liable to be produced and kept up by causes introduced from without, and tending to infect the whole mass of blood, producing various general and local symptoms. The analogy of such causes to ferments, and of their effects to the process of fermentation excited in considerable amounts of liquid by the introduction of a very minute principle of change, has given rise to the term *zymotic*, derived from the Greek word signifying ferment. This analogy must however be considered as very incomplete; and perhaps the term was introduced into the language of registration from views which were hastily and incorrectly drawn from chemical theory, to explain pathological facts; but its general adoption shows that it has a lasting value, as embodying an important idea in the classification of diseases. As we use it in our classification, it is equivalent to epidemic, endemic and contagious diseases, including those which are produced by inoculation, and some also which are rarely epidemic, or frequently destructive without any proof of zymotic influence. Under this head we may name croup and diarrhoea; the first as being rarely epidemic here, though frequent as a sequel or complication of some epidemics; and the second as often caused by ordinary exposures or imprudences, and also frequently fatal in the chronic form, which has no claim to a place in this class.

This class of diseases is charged with about 30 per cent. of all the deaths by specified causes. This is very nearly the proportion in the aggregate of all past reports. The percentage of deaths by zymotics rose as high as 37.19 in the year 1854, when cholera was epidemic; and in 1856, it was about 31.50. In Massachusetts,

the proportion assigned to zymotics, in sixteen years and eight months, beginning with the commencement of the registration reports, and ending with the year 1857, was not quite 29 per cent., and for the five years, 1853—57, it was but twenty-seven and a half per cent. In England, for two years, 1856 and 1857, it was about twenty-one per cent. And the term zymotic is made to include some few diseases in the reports of England and Massachusetts, which we do not class under it.

The percentage due to zymotics varies in different parts of this State. Generally, in a series of years, our compact city will probably be found to report the highest proportion of deaths by these diseases. This would be in accordance with experience elsewhere. But it is not so in the returns for the last two years. We have seen reason, in former parts of the present report, for supposing that the towns bordering on Providence suffer in regard to healthfulness, by the overflow of its population. Much of this overflow consists of elements not best fitted for sanitary improvement, and likely to offer worse results to the statistical inquirer on account of being out of reach of the well administered health-regulations of the city. The high proportion of foreign population in these towns, and the low average age at death, are mentioned elsewhere; and we find the proportion of deaths by zymotic diseases, if we may trust our reports, higher in these towns in each of the last three years than in Providence. Newport, also, shows a high ratio of zymotics in 1858.

These diseases are most fatal in childhood, and comprise most of the great destroyers of infancy. Thus, in the year now under examination, the deaths by zymotics at ages under five, amounted to 503, being five-sevenths of all the deaths by these diseases, and considerably more than half of all the deaths by known causes at that age. Of the deaths between five and ten years of age, a good deal more than half were attributed to zymotics. In the aggregate of previous registration, these were charged with somewhat more than half the deaths in each of these two periods of early life. The sexes suffer almost equally from zymotic diseases, taken as a whole. In six years and seven months, there have been 3,413 deaths attributed to these diseases; males, 1,693; females, 1,707; of unspecified sex, 13.

The zymotic diseases most fatal in infancy, naturally divide themselves into two groups, widely differing in their habitudes,

and which give character, by their varying prevalence, to the mortality of different seasons and years. The group of what are commonly called summer-complaints were most destructive in the earlier years of our registration. But, for a year or two past, the greater amount of loss of life has been produced by another set of diseases, which prevail most in the cooler parts of the year. These diseases are *scarlatina, measles, croup, hooping cough*. The deaths by the four diseases named, in 1858, were 391, more than half of all the deaths by zymotics, and full one-sixth of all the deaths by specified causes.

DEATHS BY SCARLATINA, FOR FIVE YEARS,
Arranged by months, years, sexes, ages, and divisions of the State,

MONTHS.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.	Total.	Monthly Presentation.	Under 5.	20 and over.	Unknown.	DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.		Total.	1854.	1855.	1856.	1857.	1858.
											Males.....	Females.....						
January.....	9	3	25	15	36	88	12.46	249	87	16	2	2	4	2	2	4	2	4
February.....	7	..	26	12	38	83	11.75	226	87	21	4	4	1	1	..	..	..	..
March.....	11	10	39	7	29	98	13.65	Total.....	475	174	37	6	6	3	5	..	..	..
April.....	3	8	30	9	26	76	10.76	Percentage at different ages {	67.76	24.82	5.28	.86	.86	.42	..	..	..	..
May.....	6	12	19	7	22	66	9.35											
June.....	3	2	19	13	22	59	8.34											
July.....	4	3	8	7	15	37	5.24											
August.....	..	3	5	4	9	21	2.97	Bristol county..	..	22	3	..	5	30				
September.....	..	..	3	12	2	17	2.40	Kent county....	..	..	1	20	11	32				
October.....	1	3	8	9	4	25	3.54	Newport county.	2	1	3	47	75	128				
November.....	..	13	14	22	13	62	8.78	Towns, Prov. co.	..	6	57	47	61	171				
December.....	2	14	12	30	18	76	10.76	Providence city.	43	42	144	32	72	333				
Total.....	46	71	208	147	234	706	100.00	Washington co...	1	..	..	1	10	12				
Per cent. of all by given causes {	2.89	4.23	11.89	7.11	10.99	7.51		Whole State....	46	71	208	147	234	706				

Scarlatina.—The results of our registration of deaths by this disease, for five years past, are shown by a table. We have not included those earlier than 1854, for several reasons of convenience, arising from changes which have been made in the details of the registry and tables. By means of this table we can trace the periods of prevalence and decline of this disease, in the State taken as a whole, through each month for five successive years, and also in the several divisions of the State, for each entire year. But before 1856, the registration in many country towns was very deficient. We also see its comparative frequency, as a cause of death, in each month, each sex, and each period of life. The whole number of males was 362, of females, 344; the deaths of males not preponderating so much as they do in the total number of deaths, from all causes, in the first five years of life, and only about as much as the births of males exceed those of females.

In the whole five years, the disease was more fatal in March than in any other month, and least so in September, its monthly mortality increasing as we go in either direction from September. It began to be unusually fatal in November, 1857, and continued so through the first half of 1858. In the first six months of that year, it caused 173 deaths, the greatest number being in February. Most of these deaths were in the counties of Newport and Providence.

In Newport county, the disease was very severe from the autumn of 1857 to the following spring. The deaths in that county were, in November, 1857, 13; in December, 15; in January, 1858, 22; February, 19; March, 16. Of the 75 deaths in that county in 1858, 68 were in Newport city, 3 in Fall River, 2 in Middletown, and 2 in Tiverton. In the city of Newport, there were 20 in January, 19 in February, 14 in March, 4 in April, 2 in May, 7 in June, 2 in August. Adding 25 which occurred in the last two months of 1857, we have, in eight successive months, a total of 91 deaths by scarlatina, in a population of 10,000 persons, containing probably somewhat more than 1000 children under five years old. In 1857 and 1858 together, there were 105 deaths in that city by this disease, 29 in the first ward, 20 in the second, 18 in the third, 8 in the fourth, 29 in the fifth, and 1 in Newport Asylum.

This loss of life, very large to be caused by one disease in a single season, is rendered still more sad to the student of these melancholy records of mortality, by noticing the frequent instances

in which the same family was afflicted by it more than once. We notice seven cases in Newport where two children died in the same family, and one where four perished, within three weeks of one another, children of Irish parents.

In the city of Providence there were 72 deaths by scarlatina, in 1858, scattered through all the months except September, rising to 16 in April and 10 in May, in no other month exceeding 8. There were 30 more than in 1857, but only half so many as in 1856. The City Registrar estimates that there were 1500 cases of the disease in 1858. In other parts of Providence county, there were probably as many deaths, though but 61 were reported, owing perhaps to defective registration. Of these, 48 were in the three towns adjoining Providence, 21 in Cranston, 16 in Johnston and 11 in North Providence. These deaths, like those in the city, were numerous in the first five months of the year, viz: in January 5, in February 5, in March 9, in April 6, in May 6. But they exhibit a special outbreak in November and December, there being 8 deaths in November, and 11 in December, of which 8 were in Cranston and 9 in Johnston. The epidemic was very severe in the suburban parts of these two towns, during those two months, and will no doubt appear in their returns for the early months of 1859.

In 1858, the parentage of all but 22 who died of scarlatina was reported, and there were, of American fathers 139, foreign 73. In two years past, there were, American 222, foreign 129. The proportion of American parentage is 63 in a hundred, while for all deaths of specified parentage, it is 61 in a hundred, so that the deaths by scarlatina are a very little more frequent proportionally among the families of American origin than are deaths of all sorts. We have before this had occasion to notice that scarlatina did not appear to follow the same law as our destructive summer-diseases of children, in its common choice of victims. In the words of the City Registrar of Providence, "it seems thus far to baffle all sanitary investigation, and bid defiance to all sanitary precautions. Unlike most other epidemics, it visits equally the city and the country; the solitary farm-house and the thriving village; the hill and the valley; and often exhibits its most terrific power where, judging from the known laws of epidemics, it would be least expected. It knows no distinction of classes, but destroys alike the children of native and of foreign parentage; and carries desolation as often to the homes of the rich as of the poor."

The mere fact of its showing no particular preference for foreign families, in our principal city and other compact places, is enough to show that it is not very greatly under the influence of sanitary conditions. A large part of its mortality is from causes which do not depend on imprudence or want of proper care. In this respect it differs much from measles. In spite of the best precautions, some cases will prove fatal, by the first shock of its attack, by the violence of subsequent reaction and fever, or by some of the numerous and dreadful complications which beset its course. In preventing all these disasters, more varied and insidious than are common in any other acute disease, good nursing and judicious medical advice are of the highest value; yet a certain proportion of cases will defy the best watchfulness. The friends of children must hope that some future Jenner may one day discover a preventive which shall lessen the horrors of this scourge of infancy.

Measles. This disease was charged with 75 deaths in 1858, being nearly three times as many as in all previous reports put together, and more than were ascribed to any other zymotic disease, except scarlatina and cholera infantum. Of these 75 deaths, 59 were in Providence county,—39 in the city, five in each of the towns of North Providence, Johnston and Cumberland, 3 in Cranston, and 2 in Smithfield. Ten occurred in August and September, all which were in that county; but 64 took place in the first half of the year. There were several thousand *cases* in Providence city; but the deaths were generally "caused by want of care and exposure, producing inflammation of the lungs, or some other disease, secondary to the measles." The parentage of 69 was specified; American, 19; foreign, 50;—very different proportions, it will be observed, from those in scarlatina.

Croup stands fourth in order of fatality among zymotic diseases, in 1858. Its proportion to all deaths from specified causes, is the same as in the general aggregate for this State, about three in a hundred. Of the 69 deaths, 51 were in Providence county, 11 in Kent. In Providence city, 28; in North Providence, 8; in Cranston and Johnston, 8, &c. All those in Kent county were in Warwick. The deaths were pretty equally scattered over the year, with an excess in the first six months. Parentage of 67 specified; American, 30; foreign, 37. Several cases were complications of

scarlatina, measles, or other acute diseases. There are no marked indications of any epidemic prevalence of croup.

If we add to these three diseases, *hooping cough*, which is much less frequently fatal, we have one group of zymotics, which was more destructive than any other, in the year 1858. The following table illustrates their preference for the cooler months of the year, and shows that the mortality by all four together, finds its maximum in March, its minimum in September, and passes with nearly regular gradations from one to the other. In six years, 1853 to 1858, there were 1,295 deaths by these four diseases, distributed as follows:

	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Number ...	146	141	157	126	106	111	72	60	55	77	118	126
Per cent....	11.3	10.9	12.1	9.7	8.2	8.6	5.6	4.6	4.2	6.0	9.1	9.7

In the whole six years and seven months of our registration, there have been 1,345 deaths by these diseases. The ages of 1,332 were specified; as follows:

Under 5.	5—10.	10—15.	15—20.	20—30.	30—40.	40—50.	50—60.	60—70.	70—80.
992	271	44	8	8	5	1	1	1	1

The geographical distribution of these diseases cannot be learned from these tables in a reliable manner, on account of the defects in registration. But it is evident from the returns of the past few years, that they invade the country and villages as much as the city.

There were almost precisely as many deaths of males as females by the above affections; males, 672; females, 670; sex unspecified, 3.

Somewhat allied to these diseases is *influenza*, or epidemic inflammation of the respiratory mucous membrane. This was quite prevalent, as mentioned in our last report, in the last part of 1857, especially in Providence city. In 1858, only 6 deaths were attributed to it, 3 at each extreme of life, and 3 in the earlier, 3 in the later months of the year. None occurred in Providence in January or February. It is seldom fatal, except in young children or aged persons.

The other most important group of zymotic diseases, fatal especially to children, consists of *cholera infantum*, *diarrhaea* and *dysentery*,

—names which are too often used interchangeably. These are the “summer complaints,” most fatal in the very months which are freest from the diseases last under examination, and more prevalent and fatal in and near the city than in other portions of the State. These diseases are charged with 196 deaths in 1858, or 8.45 in every hundred by known causes. In the whole course of registration previous to that year, they produced 11.55 per cent. of all. The percentage of deaths due to these diseases has steadily lessened for five years past, being as follows, in these five successive years, 13.22, 12.70, 9.25, 9.05, 8.45. This apparent diminution has been partly owing to improved registration in country-towns, causing the deaths in Providence city, where these diseases are most severe, to form a smaller proportion of the deaths in the State. But this is not the only cause, for the absolute number in Providence has lessened each year, within these five years. Probably, in other parts of the State, the number has lessened, though improvement in completeness of registration has obscured this change. The actual numbers of deaths in the five successive years, in the State, have been, 210, 213, 162, 187, 196.

In six years, 1853 to 1858, there were 1108 deaths by these three diseases, distributed as follows through the several months:

Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
5	9	7	7	14	16	162	417	286	136	38	11

In the total results for six years and seven months, there were 1216 deaths by these diseases. The ages of 1206 were stated, as follows:

Under 5.	5—10.	10—15.	15—20.	20—30.	30—40.	40—50.	50—60.	60—70.	70—80.	80 & over.
992	24	11	8	27	27	26	24	35	24	8

It will be seen, then, that these diseases, in the whole period embraced by our registration reports, have caused somewhat fewer deaths than those in the first group; that they have been a good deal less exclusively confined to ages under ten years old, and yet have caused precisely the same number of deaths of children below five. If chronic diarrhoea, which does not belong with zymotic diseases, were excluded, the number of deaths of adults by these complaints would be still smaller. They have been almost confined

to the hotter months of the year, more exclusive in this respect than the first group.

There died by these diseases, in six years and seven months, 600 males, 609 females, and 7 persons of unspecified sex.

Cholera Infantum. In 1858, there were 93 deaths by this disease, or four per cent. of all by known causes. It stands next to scarlatina in order of fatality among the zymotics, and fourth among all the diseases. Of these 93 deaths, 77 were in Providence county, 50 in the city, and 18 in the three adjacent towns; 5 were in East Greenwich; none in Newport county. Though so large a part of these deaths occurred in Providence city, yet they have been lessening for four years in that city. The parentage of 85 was specified; American, 29; foreign, 56. The excess of foreign parentage was still greater in Providence.

Diarrhœa and *Dysentery* caused 103 deaths in 1858,—a smaller proportion than ever before. 70 were in Providence county, 40 in the city, 9 in North Providence, 8 in Johnston, 5 in Cranston, and 8 in other towns of the county; 14 in Washington county, forming nine and a half per cent. of the deaths in that county. In Newport county, no deaths in 1858 were attributed to cholera infantum, cholera morbus, or diarrhœa, and only six to dysentery. Specified parentages, by diarrhœa and dysentery, in the State, 92; American, 42; foreign, 50.

Typhoid and *Typhus Fever.* Typhoid fever is a disease usually of early adult life: In 1858, just half the deaths returned under this name were at ages between 15 and 30. 42 deaths are attributed to typhoid and typhus. With these it may be safe to join the 7 assigned to "fever," making a total of 49. Of these 20 were in Providence city, 5 in the three adjacent towns, 4 in Cumberland; in Kent county 9, of which 7 were in Warwick. The proportion of these deaths in Providence city, was two in every hundred by known causes; in all the rest of the State, it was one and a quarter in a hundred. For two years before 1858, the percentage in Providence was less than in the remainder of the State. We believe that if our registration were complete, it would appear that this disease is more common and destructive in our country-towns than in the large city, in proportion to the number of inhabitants. My own observation would lead me to suppose that it is

most common in Washington county, in most parts of which the streams have comparatively little fall, and many villages are built near mill-streams or ponds. If I am rightly informed, many cases are commonly seen in autumn, by physicians living near the rivers of the central portions of Washington county; and they have been, of late years at any rate, very liable to dangerous complications, among which hemorrhage from the bowels has been quite frequent. If these statements are incorrect, we hope the physicians of that part of the State will show the mistake, by giving accurate certificates of the causes of deaths in their practice, as required by law, and by communicating directly with the medical committee on registration, or with their agents who are employed in preparing the annual reports.*

No month but October shows any particular excess of deaths by typhoid fever. In past years, October and November have had considerably more than any other months. The parentage of 47 who died by typhoid, typhus, or "fever," is stated; American, 36; foreign, 11.

Diphtheria. A few cases in children, occurring in Providence in the last half of the year 1858,—cases marked by the formation of false-membrane in the throat and air-passages, and tendency to sinking and death,—were considered by physicians who saw them to be instances of the disease lately epidemic in England, and long known in France under the name of *diphthérie*. There is reason to apprehend that this peculiar variety of disease may become common among us. Six deaths were attributed to it; 5 in the city of Providence, 1 in South Kingstown. In the city, 2 occurred in August, and 1 in each of the three following months; that in South Kingstown was in December. Two were between 2 and 5 years old; three between 5 and 10; the death in South Kingstown was at the age of 16. There were one male and 5 females; five of American and one of Irish parentage.

As this report is passing through the press, we have an opportunity to note the occurrence of several of these cases in Providence, in 1859. Up to the present date, (November 5, 1859,) 14 deaths have been ascribed to *diphtheria*, in the city, since the beginning of the year.

*The Registration Reports of Vermont will be interesting, as showing the vital statistics of a population almost exclusively rural, with no large cities. In the First Report, just received, the deaths by typhoid fever are more than 5 in every hundred by given causes.

The following table shows the age and sex of all the 175 persons who have been reported as dying of *cancer*, in the whole six years and seven months covered by our reports, and also the locality of the cancer so far as specified. It will be seen that in half the cases, the part affected by the cancer was not named.

DEATHS BY CANCER. JUNE 1, 1852—DECEMBER 31, 1858

SEAT.	0—5.		20—30.		30—40.		40—50.		50—60.		60—70.		70—80.		80+.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Unspecified	1	...	1	9	3	12	5	18	3	16	5	7	4	4	22	66	
Bladder.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	
Bowels	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4	
Brain.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..
Breast.....	...	1	...	...	1	..	3	..	2	..	5	..	2	..	1	..	14
Face and Neck	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	..	1	..	...	2	3	3	
Kidneys.....	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Leg.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	..
Liver.....	1	..	1	..	...	...	1	..	1	1	..	3	2		
Œsophagus.....	1	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Pancreas	1	..	...	...	1	
Prostate.....	1	..	2	..	...	...	3		
Stomach	2	4	3	1	2	3	10	2	1	..	2	10	20		
Uterus and Vagina..	...	1	..	1	..	5	..	9	..	3	..	...	...	...	...	...	19
Total. }	1	2	1	2	14	7	25	6	33	11	36	11	12	4	9	44	131	

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM. The diseases of the respiratory organs are uniformly more destructive than those of any other system or set of organs. These and zymotic diseases form the two leading classes in the records of deaths, the zymotic class usually having the largest number. This is the case in the year before us. The proportion assigned to respiratory diseases (26.89 per cent.) is almost exactly the same as in the aggregate of our registration. There are no remarkable and constant differences between the parts of the State, in regard to the proportion of the deaths assigned to these affections. Newport county appears, the last year, as in former reports, to have somewhat a smaller proportion than other divisions of the State. The importance of this class of causes of death, is mainly owing to consumption, which, if always properly defined, should be considered as a form of tubercular or scrofulous disease, allied in regard to its causes to hydrocephalus and some other local affections. Indeed, we think the most unquestionable merit of the altered classification of diseases lately introduced in England and Massachusetts is in its bringing together all tubercular diseases, separated from all others.

Consumption. In 1858, there were 422 deaths attributed to consumption, being 18.19 in every hundred from specified causes. The percentage has been rather lessening since the commencement of this series of reports, having been as high as 22 in the first, and exactly 20 in the aggregate of all previous to the present. This diminution of consumption we suppose to be apparent, and dependent on the more accurate use of terms. The common effect of greater strictness in requiring physicians' certificates, and of greater accuracy in determining the nature of fatal chronic diseases, is to lessen the reported mortality by consumption.

We find no reason for supposing that this scourge of temperate climates is becoming either more or less destructive from year to year. The variations in the ratio deduced from our returns, depend on such incidental causes as that just referred to, or on the higher or lower proportion of zymotics. As facts of this kind become more valuable by accumulating, it is well to bring together the results for several years.

In the whole series of our reports, 2188 deaths have been assigned to consumption, being an average rate of 332 deaths in a year. The sex of all but four was specified; males, 911; females, 1273. The age most liable to deaths by consumption is between fifteen and forty years. Nearly half the deaths in our records (1005) were between twenty and forty. A marked feature in the mortality is the excess of deaths of females in the periods of life following fifteen years. It is probable that altogether too many of the deaths of young children are attributed to this disease. The differences between the seasons are not great. In six years, there have been 192 deaths in December, and 191 in March; 150 in July, 160 each in April and September, 161 in August; these being the two extremes.

On account of the vagueness in the language employed in certifying causes of death, we cannot rely on our results in judging of the comparative frequency of consumption in different parts of the State. In time, these results will become very valuable. The number of deaths by consumption, in every hundred by known causes, has been as follows, in the total of all our reports:

Bristol county.	Kent county.	Newport county.	Providence co.	Washington co.	STATE.
16.3	21.0	18.7	20.0	18.1	19.6

Providence and Kent counties appear to have somewhat more than the general average, and the other counties, less. Perhaps the differences are no more than may be caused by various modes of using terms.

It may be worth while to preserve, for future use, an account of the deaths attributed to consumption in each town. We give the numbers for 1858, and also the number by all specified causes in each town.

TOWNS.	Consumption.	All given causes.	TOWNS.	Consumption.	All given causes.
Barrington.....	1	12	Cranston.....	7	96
Bristol.....	14	66	Cumberland.....	28	108
Warren.....	9	37	Foster.....	3	7
Coventry.....	4	37	Glocester.....	3	17
East Greenwich.....	7	40	Johnston.....	7	70
West Greenwich.....	4	21	North Providence.....	32	146
Warwick.....	22	94	Providence.....	169	996
Fall River.....	9	34	Scituate.....	4	8
Jamesstown.....	1	2	Smithfield.....	16	57
Little Compton.....	3	12	Charlestown.....	1	12
Middletown.....	2	13	Exeter.....	3	11
Newport.....	37	221	Hopkinton.....	4	12
New Shoreham.....	1	11	North Kingstown.....	5	39
Portsmouth.....	4	19	South Kingstown.....	8	29
Tiverton.....	1	20	Richmond.....	6	15
Burrillville.....	5	27	Westerly.....	2	30

Every town had at least one death ascribed to consumption in 1858. The continued record of these facts may be of use hereafter, as figures multiply, and causes of death come to be more accurately stated. Possibly some curious results might now be obtained by skilful grouping of the several towns.

In Providence city, about 17 per cent. of the deaths in 1858 were from consumption; in 1857, 20 per cent.; in 1856, 17.3 per cent.; in fifteen years, from 1840 to 1854, 22.1 per cent. The proportion has on the whole been lessening, having been as high as 26.5 per cent. in the five years, 1840 to 1844, inclusive. In 1858, there was one death by consumption in every 297 of the estimated population of the city.

In a former report, we ventured to express our opinion that consumption was more fatal in Warren than in Bristol, while zymotic diseases were more fatal in Bristol. This opinion was founded on tables drawn from the bills of mortality kept in those towns for many years. The account for Warren was kept by an eminent physician of that place, a member of the registration-committee of the Medical Society; the causes of death in Bristol were generally obtained by inquiry from the physicians who attended fatal

cases of disease. The results then obtained in a series of years seemed to warrant our statement. We now post up the results since obtained, with those presented in the appendix to our second report.

DEATHS BY	Bristol. 1846—1858.		Warren. 1850—1858.	
	Number.	Per cent.	Number.	Per cent.
All causes.....	1,023	100.0	433	100.0
Consumption.....	135	13.2	86	19.9
Zymotics.....	287	28.0	70	16.1

The figures are obtained from the bills of mortality for all years before 1858, and for that year from the registration returns. Those for Bristol cover a period of thirteen years; those for Warren, nine years. The population of Bristol in 1850 was to that of Warren nearly as 3 to 2. We leave these facts with only two remarks. First, the question is not, which town is the healthier, but what kinds of diseases prevail most, or rather cause the greatest part of the deaths, in each; and hence, what constitutions and ages would be most endangered by a residence in each? Secondly, Dr. Henry I. Bowditch, of Boston, has been for many years investigating the comparative prevalence of consumption in different parts of Massachusetts. It appears from his inquiries, that consumption is most common in localities where the land and air are much impregnated with moisture, and those exposed to north or east winds blowing over large surfaces of water. In situations well sheltered on the north, on the southern slopes of declivities, it is less common. From these results, we might certainly expect that consumption would be more frequent in Warren than in Bristol, in proportion to the number of inhabitants.

There seems to be no great difference between the American and foreign classes, in their liability to consumption. In 1858, the parentage of 399 victims was stated; American, 241; foreign, 158. The proportion of American parentage was somewhat larger than in the total mortality from all causes. In three years past in Providence, the proportion of deaths of American parentage, by consumption, has been greater than the proportion of deaths of American parentage, by all causes; but almost exactly equal to that of American population, classed by parentage, living by the census of 1855.

Pneumonia. In six years and seven months, 575 deaths have been attributed to pneumonia and pleurisy. We present the particulars for five years, in a table.

1854—1858.

MONTHS.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Number ..	65	54	66	61	42	25	18	19	19	29	54	62	514
Per cent...	12.6	10.5	12.8	11.9	8.2	4.9	3.5	3.7	3.7	5.6	10.5	12.1	100.0
AGES.	0—5.	5—10.	10—15.	15—20.	20—30.	30—40.	40—50.	50—60.	60—70.	70—80.	80+.	?	Total.
Number ..	223	22	8	10	29	36	39	48	39	38	19	3	514
Per cent...	43.6	4.3	1.6	1.9	5.7	7.0	7.7	9.4	7.7	7.4	3.7	..	100.0

Considerably more males than females die of these diseases. The several counties do not differ much in the ratio of deaths by these diseases to their total mortality; Washington having the highest ratio, and Newport the lowest.

In 1858, the proportion of deaths attributed to pleurisy and pneumonia was higher than in any former year; pneumonia rising to the third place among single diseases. This may have been partly owing to the influenza of the autumn of 1857, which caused some deaths that were ascribed to pneumonia. Some fatal cases were sequels of measles and scarlatina, though where this fact was distinctly mentioned in the return, the death has been set down to the primary disease, in our tables. In Providence, great care has been taken to distinguish the primary from the secondary diseases, and in cases like the above, to refer the death to the earlier affection; yet the percentage of deaths by pneumonia and congestion of the lungs was more than twice as great in 1858 as in an average of fifteen years.

Under the head of *heart, disease of*, are nine cases of hypertrophy, two of ossification, one of fatty degeneration; the rest being returned simply as disease of the heart, with the frequent mention of dropsy, a secondary affection.

Among the deaths by *child-birth*, four were ascribed to hemorrhage, four to convulsions, three to puerperal mania, two to rupture of the uterus, one to "debility following confinement," one to "severe cold after child-birth," one to miscarriage, one to "puerperal consumption."

OLD AGE. The proportion of deaths attributed to old age is almost precisely the same in the year 1858 as in the aggregate of registration,—not quite five in every hundred by given causes. In Massachusetts, for five years, the percentage has been a very little over five; in England, for 1856 and 1857, more than six. The differences between the counties in this respect are less than they used to be; though Kent still exhibits an improbably high ratio. The towns of Providence county have a still lower proportion than the city. More females than males always die of old age. The deaths are fewer in the warm than the cold months of the year. Six deaths, in 1858, were attributed to this cause, at ages below 70. No doubt many deaths, assigned to old age, were caused by some disease which shortened life; and we suppose that the high proportion of deaths attributed to this cause, in the returns, is rather a sign of imperfect registration than of extraordinary longevity. The parentage of 106 of those who died, of old age, in the year 1858, was stated; American, 88; Irish 16; English, 1; African, 1, (the centenarian servant.)

EXTERNAL and VIOLENT CAUSES. It is frequently difficult to determine whether a given case should be put under this head; as for example when a disease exists which was first caused by some accident or known outward agency;—as tetanus from an injury, or delirium tremens as a result of the use of alcoholic liquors. It is a defect of our present classification that intemperance and delirium tremens are widely separated from each other.

Under the head of *casualty*, we put 29 deaths, not including burns and scalds, drowning, accidental exposures or poisoning. Some more particular account of the kind of casualty, was given in 23 out of the 29 cases, as follows: a fall, 4; run over by cars, 3; concussion of brain, 3; and one by each of the following causes: injury of the head, injury of the spine, "head crushed by fall of wooden steps," "fracture of skull by being thrown from a wagon," "fracture of neck of femur," "thrown from a carriage," "fall from a load," "fall from a barn," "fall from a high bank," "fall through a scuttle three stories," "fall of sand-bank," "fall of a bale of cotton," "explosion of a boiler."

The 5 deaths by *poisoning* were thus reported: one by arsenic, (a case of murder;) one by laudanum, given in a case of disease supposed to be a cancer, (an Irish female, aged 55;) one by God-

frey's cordial, (an infant;) one returned, "an over-dose of morphine and chloroform," (an adult;) and lastly, one returned, "taking narcotics," which perhaps ought to have been put under the head of intemperance, (an American female, aged 40.)

In 11 of the 13 cases of *suicide*, the mode of suicide was specified; viz: by hanging, 6; drowning, 3; arsenic, 1; prussic acid, 1. There were 9 males and 4 females; 4 males and 2 females, hanged themselves; 3 males drowned themselves; 2 females took poison; and 2 males committed suicide, the manner not being reported. In West Greenwich, there were 3 cases of suicide, being at the rate of one in seven deaths by known causes. Two of the three were paupers, as were 2 others out of the 24 who died in that town.

The terms *exposure* and *neglect* are stretched to cover quite a variety of cases. Two were infants, a few days old, said to have died from "mismanagement" and "bad feeding;" two were adults who died from cold; the others were children.

POPULATION.

The results of registration throw considerable light on the present increase of our population, and suggest many topics of inquiry and thought connected with that subject. The amount of increase due to natural causes, that is, to the excess of births over deaths, compared with that which is caused by excess of immigration over emigration, the comparative rate of increase in the different classes and races of our inhabitants, the rate for different towns and regions of the State, and the movements of population, in particular the centralization into towns and large villages, all these subjects are illustrated by the registry of births, marriages and deaths, continued from year to year. Accordingly, we have given, in former reports, such accounts as space would allow of the results of the latest censuses; that of the United States taken in

1850, so far as related to Rhode Island, and the census of Providence, taken in 1855, by direction of the government of that city. We very much regret that our State does not, like the neighboring commonwealth of Massachusetts, order an enumeration of the inhabitants at periods midway between those of the national censuses. A better knowledge and more frequent record of the statistics of population, as well as of industry, public schools, finances, &c., would be very valuable. For want of it, we can now only guess at the population of our towns, and our guesses are likely to be wide of the mark, when several years have elapsed since any general enumeration. No mathematical rule can be relied on, in making such estimates. The most recent Registration Reports of Massachusetts are much enhanced in value, by the frequent comparison of results of registration with those of the excellent census of the State, taken in 1855. It will be the object of this closing portion of our report, to give some account of the population of different parts of the State at various former periods.*

The first settlement of Providence, by Roger Williams, took place early in 1636; that of Portsmouth in March, 1638, and that of Newport, a colony from Portsmouth, about a year later. It is well known that, though the first settlement of Providence was thus two years previous to that of Aquedneck, the superior attractions of that beautiful island drew far more colonists to its two towns, so that they soon took the lead in population and wealth. We know of no enumeration of the inhabitants, after they began to multiply, till after the year 1700. Some idea may be formed of the comparative growth of different settlements, by examining the apportionments of several taxes laid on the towns, though we are told that, up to the last part of the seventeenth century, these allotments were made a good deal by guess-work, and at any rate they show the supposed property or resources rather than population of the several places. At the first General Assembly held under the earliest "Incorporation" which united the towns under one government, in 1647, "a tax of one hundred pounds was levied, as a free gift to Mr. Roger Williams, for his labor in obtaining the charter. Of this, Newport was to pay one-half, Portsmouth thirty, and Providence twenty pounds. Warwick was too weak, as yet, to bear any part of the burden." Providence, then estimated to con-

* The materials for this account are drawn from the various censuses, the Colonial Records, edited by Hon. John R. Bartlett, Secretary of State, Arnold's History of Rhode Island, Holmes' Annals of America, &c.

tain one-fifth of the resources of the colony, included the whole of our present Providence county, except Cumberland. At several subsequent levies before the time of King Philip's war, from 1659 to 1670, Newport was assessed about two-fifths of the whole amount required, and Providence never far from one-fifth; Portsmouth was taxed for 28 per cent. of all, in May, 1659, but afterwards only the same as Providence; Warwick was equal with Providence at that date, and subsequently not far behind it; and, after 1664, Petaquamscot, Conanicut, and Block Island had their smaller shares of the common burdens. King Philip's war, 1675-76, drove a great part of the inhabitants of the mainland to the shelter of the islands; and in 1678, the proportions of the several towns had been greatly changed. In a tax laid that year, Newport and Portsmouth were taxed for more than two-thirds of all, (68 per cent.); Conanicut and Block Island together, about one-fifth; and all the towns on the mainland, less than an eighth.

In spite of early laws on the subject of registration, a history of which may be found in the first of this series of reports, no materials of the kind were collected, that would warrant us in drawing any inferences in regard to the population of the colony, during the first century of its settlement. In 1680, the Governor and Council sent answers to certain inquiries of the Board of Trade, in which they state that "there may be of Whites and Blakes about two hundred borne in a yeare;—for marriages, we have about fifty in a yeare;—for burials this seaven yeares last past accordeinge to computation amounts to foure hundred fifty and five." If we were to judge of the number of inhabitants by this estimate of the births that occurred annually, we should put it at not far from 6,000; from the marriages and deaths, we should suppose it less than that. The late Henry Bull estimated the white population of the colony in 1680, to have been about 7,000.

In 1701, Reverend Dr. Humphreys, Secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in writing an account of the religious state of the several colonies, said, "In Rhode Island and Narraganset, which is one government, there are about 10,000 souls, of which about 150 frequent the church, and there are 30 communicants."

This estimate was probably too large. The first enumeration, we believe, taken in compliance with demands from the Board of Trade in England, in December, 1708, gave a total of only 7,181.

This number includes 426 "black servants;" perhaps Indians, then quite numerous in the colony, were not counted. The nine towns which then composed the colony, had the following population, respectively: Newport, 2,203; Providence, 1,446; Kingstown, 1,200; Portsmouth, 628; Westerly, 570; Warwick, 480; Greenwich, 240; New Shoreham, 208; Jamestown, 206.

In 1730, a census was again taken, in reply to "Queries sent to this Government by the Board of Trade." The results are shown in the following table. The only change made in the number of towns since 1708, had been the division of Kingstown into two. Providence still included all the present county, except Cumberland.

CENSUS OF 1730.

TOWNS.	Whites.	Blacks.	Indians.	Total.
Newport.....	3,843	649	148	4,640
Providence.....	3,707	128	81	3,916
North Kingstown.....	1,875	165	65	2,105
Westerly.....	1,620	56	250	1,926
South Kingstown.....	965	333	225	1,523
East Greenwich.....	1,149	40	34	1,223
Warwick.....	1,028	77	73	1,178
Portsmouth.....	643	100	70	813
Jamestown.....	222	80	19	321
New Shoreham.....	250	20	20	290
Total.....	15,302	1,648	985	17,935

In 1746, the colony received its most important accession of territory, by the addition of five towns, some of which already contained compact villages. These were Cumberland, Bristol, Warren, (which included Barrington,) Tiverton, and Little Compton. The population of these towns is said to have been 4,747; whites, 4,176; negroes, 343; Indians, 228.

In 1748, the General Assembly directed another census to be taken, in accordance with orders from the Board of Trade. The whole population of the recently enlarged colony was found to be 34,128; whites, 29,755; blacks, 4,373. Indians were included with the blacks. Newport is said to have contained 5,335 white inhabitants, 1105 negroes, and 68 Indians; total, 6,508. Providence had, white, 3,177; negroes, 225; Indians, 50; total, 3,452. Providence had fewer inhabitants by this enumeration than by that of 1730; but its territory had now been considerably lessened, by the incorporation of Smithfield, Scituate and Glocester.

The results of a similar census, taken in 1755, were thus stated by Governor Stephen Hopkins: "In obedience to your Lordship's

commands, I have caused the within account to be taken by officers under oath. By it, there appears to be in this Colony, at this time, 35,939 White Persons, and 4,697 Blacks, chiefly Negroes." The total population then was 40,636. One eighth part of the inhabitants, according to Governor Hopkins, were Quakers. Newport had 6,753, and Providence 3,159 inhabitants. Cranston had just been set off from Providence. Dr. Stiles remarks that the Blacks were "chiefly Negroes, excepting in the county of King's county, where are the Remains of the Narraganset Indians."

In 1774, a complete census was taken, under a vote of the General Assembly. It was the first enumeration made by the sole authority of that body. In this census, the numbers of whites, Indians and blacks, in each town, were stated, with the numbers of whites above and below the age of sixteen years. The names of all the heads of families in the several towns, except in New Shoreham, were also recorded. This census, now become a document of great historical and genealogical interest, has lately been printed, for the first time, by order of the General Assembly. We present the general numerical results in our next table. The towns were the same as at present, except that Burrillville was included in Gloucester, Foster in Scituate, and Fall River in Tiverton. The town of Providence had by this time been reduced to its present limits. The whole county, which was the original town, with Cumberland added, was more populous, by full 3,000, than Newport county, which comprehended the early island settlements, with Tiverton and Little Compton added. Notwithstanding the attractions of Newport and the beautiful shores of the Bay, and the thriving commerce which had grown up there, the extensive back-country belonging to Providence county, more than three times as large in area as Newport county, and offering many inviting places for settlement to the hardy pioneers, had increased more rapidly. Newport continued to be the largest town, and the principal seat of wealth and culture, till the time of the revolutionary war. It had, within a few hundred, as many inhabitants in 1774 as in 1850. The distribution of the blacks through different parts of the State, illustrates the social condition of the several communities. Of the Indians, considerably more than half were in King's, now Washington county, the old home of the Narragansets.

CENSUS OF 1774.

TOWNS AND COUNTIES.	Whites.	Indians.	Blacks.	TOTAL.
Barrington	542	18	41	601
Bristol	1,079	16	114	1,209
Warren	928	7	44	979
BRISTOL COUNTY	2,549	41	199	2,789
Coventry	1,992	11	20	2,023
East Greenwich	1,563	31	69	1,663
West Greenwich	1,745	..	19	1,764
Warwick	2,161	88	189	2,438
KENT COUNTY	7,461	180	297	7,888
Jamestown	400	32	131	563
Little Compton	1,160	25	47	1,232
Middle-town	804	13	64	881
Newport	7,917	46	1,246	9,209
New Shoreham	469	51	55	575
Portsmouth	1,369	21	122	1,512
Tiverton	1,790	71	95	1,956
NEWPORT COUNTY	18,909	259	1,760	15,928
Cranston	1,782	19	60	1,861
Cumberland	1,736	3	17	1,756
Glocester	2,926	..	19	2,945
Johnston	957	9	65	1,031
North Providence	792	7	31	830
Providence	3,950	68	303	4,321
Scituate	3,538	8	55	3,601
Smithfield	2,814	23	51	2,888
PROVIDENCE COUNTY	18,495	187	601	19,283
Charlestown	1,241	528	52	1,821
Exeter	1,780	17	67	1,864
Hopkinton	1,739	21	48	1,808
North Kingstown	2,182	79	211	2,472
South Kingstown	2,185	210	440	2,835
Richmond	1,213	20	24	1,257
Westerly	1,706	37	69	1,812
KING'S COUNTY	12,046	912	911	13,869
WHOLE STATE	54,460	1,479	3,768	59,707

The population of Rhode Island was a good deal lessened during the revolutionary war. This diminution was mostly in the southern part, the two south counties having begun to lose in relative population from that time. But the loss in the State at large was soon made up, in spite of deranged currency and business, and the unsettled condition of government; so that when Rhode Island at last joined the United States, in time to be included in the first national census, she had gained, in eight years, more than twice the number lost in the previous eight years. We do not intend to dwell on all the details of the seven censuses of the United States; but will mention the aggregate population of the State at each decennial period, and also give some illustrations of the growth of its different portions.

The population of the State has been:

In 1790.....	69,110	In 1830.....	97,199
In 1800.....	69,122	In 1840.....	108,830
In 1810.....	76,931	In 1850.....	147,545
In 1820.....	83,059		

In the sixty years that intervened between the first and last national censuses, the population of Rhode Island increased 113.5 per cent. But this growth was exceedingly unequal in different parts of the State. In the whole sixty years, Washington county lost 9.1 per cent. of the population it had at the beginning; Newport county gained 39.9 per cent.; Kent county gained 70.3 per cent.; Bristol county 165.1, and Providence county 258.8 per cent. We have thought this subject of the unequal increase of different places sufficiently interesting to be illustrated with some detail.

The following table shows the population of each town in 1790, and the percentage of increase or decrease from that time to 1850. The population of each town in 1850 is given in our first preliminary table. The third column of the following table indicates the gain or loss, in proportion to the number of inhabitants in 1790,—loss being shown by the sign—. Thus, Charlestown, in the whole sixty years, lost 50.8 per cent., or a very little over half of the number of inhabitants it had in 1790. Burrillville, which was set off in 1806, is included with Glocester, and the population of the two towns in 1850 was 59.2 per cent. greater than that of the undivided town in 1790.

Population in 1790; and percentage of that population gained or lost between 1790 and 1850.

TOWNS.	Population in 1790.	Per cent. gained or lost.	TOWNS.	Population in 1790.	Per cent. gained or lost.
North Providence.....	1,071	617.1	East Greenwich	1,824	29.3
Providence.....	6,380	550.7	Westerly	2,298	20.2
Smithfield	3,171	262.6	Portsmouth.....	1,560	17.5
Cumberland	1,964	239.1	Barrington	683	15.4
Bristol.....	1,406	228.3	North Kingstown.....	2,907	2.2
Warwick.....	2,493	210.5	Richmond	1,760	1.4
Warren.....	1,122	176.6	Hopkinton	2,462	0.6
Cranston.....	1,877	129.7	Middletown.....	840	-1.2
Johnston.....	1,320	122.5	Little Compton.....	1,542	-5.2
Scituate.....	2,315	97.9	South Kingstown.....	4,131	-7.8
Tiverton.....	2,453	91.6	Foster.....	2,268	-14.8
New Shoreham.....	682	85.0	Jamestown	507	-29.4
Glocester*.....	4,025	59.2	West Greenwich.....	2,054	-34.3
Coventry	2,477	46.1	Exeter	2,495	-34.5
Newport	6,716	42.4	Charlestown	2,023	-50.8

* Including Burrillville.

The towns which lost, or which gained less than they ought to have done by mere natural increase, are, with few exceptions, the farming towns,—those which have little or no manufacturing business. The extra increase of other places has depended mainly on the establishment of manufacturing villages, in those towns which united the advantage of water-power with that of easy access to some centre of distribution; on the great growth of Providence, which has overflowed into adjoining towns and raised their rate of increase; and on the extension of shipping and fisheries from a few points on the shores and islands. The general tendency of population has been to centralize itself into villages and large towns, and leave the purely agricultural regions to dwindle and decay. By the census of 1790, Providence contained 9 per cent. of the population of the State; in 1820, its proportion had increased to 14 per cent.; and in 1850, to 28 per cent. In 1850, the proportion of inhabitants living in towns of 3000 inhabitants and upwards, was greater in Rhode Island than in any other State except California. And, even within the limits of many townships, the successive censuses show that the manufacturing villages have grown at the expense of the rural portions. I suppose that this is the explanation of the loss in South Kingstown, in which town there are several villages of woolen and cotton manufactures, while the agriculture of the town has probably declined.

In the following table, will be found contrasted the rate of growth of Providence, with that of the remainder of the State, in

each decennial period. In the first period, 1790 to 1800, the State outside of Providence lost in population.

YEARS.	RHODE ISLAND.			PROVIDENCE.			REMAINDER OF THE STATE.		
	Population.	Increase in 10 years.		Population.	Increase in 10 years.		Population.	Increase in 10 years.	
		Amount.	Per cent		Amount.	Per cent		Amount.	Per cent
1790....	69,110	.....	.....	6,380	.....	.....	62,730	.....	.....
1800....	69,122	12	.02	7,614	1,234	19.34	61,508	-1,222	-1.95
1810....	76,931	7,809	11.44	10,071	2,457	32.27	66,860	+5,332	+8.70
1820....	83,059	6,128	7.83	11,745	1,674	16.62	71,314	4,454	6.66
1830....	97,199	14,140	17.02	16,836	5,091	43.34	80,363	9,049	12.69
1840....	108,830	11,631	11.97	23,172	6,336	37.63	85,658	5,295	6.54
1850....	147,545	38,715	35.37	41,513	18,341	79.15	106,032	20,374	23.79
Increase in 60 yrs.	.....	78,435	113.49	.....	35,133	550.67	.....	43,302	69.03

The influence of immigration, and the growing importance of the foreign element, are as fully illustrated by our annual abstracts as they can be in any way. Indeed, we have no full data to show the past increase of foreign population in this State. The number of aliens, or foreigners not naturalized, was stated to be, by the census of 1820, only 237; and by that of 1830, 1,100. In 1850, the foreign-born inhabitants were 23,902, or about one-sixth of all. They were found in much higher proportion in the city of Providence than elsewhere, forming, at the period just mentioned, almost exactly a quarter (24.7 per cent.) of the population of that city. In the other towns of Providence county, they were more than a sixth. In Washington county, on the other hand, the foreign-born were but one in twenty-seven of all the inhabitants. In 1855, by a census of Providence city, their percentage had increased to 27.7.

Immigration from Europe seems to have received a very considerable check, since 1854. It appears from official documents, that the number of alien passengers arriving at the port of New York had reached, in 1854, the high number of 319,223, or nearly a thousand a day; the following year, it was only 136,233, and though it rose each year after that, till 1857, it only amounted in that year, to 183,773, or about five hundred in a day. In 1858, there was again a great diminution; the reported number being only 78,589. The number of new-comers arriving by water at Boston, was greater in 1853 than any year since, but more than twice as great in 1854 as in 1857. Our reports show the great increase of the foreign class by births, especially in our cities. They

are found to have a larger proportion of adults in the marrying age, to be more disposed to marriage, in spite of hard times, and to have more children to a marriage, than the native inhabitants. It is a startling fact, that for a few years past, there have been more children of Irish than of American parents born in Providence, to say nothing of other foreign families. The influx of foreigners has added vastly to the centralization which our figures indicate.

The following rule, stated in the sixteenth Registration Report of Massachusetts, refers to the comparative increase by births and by immigration of all sorts, from other States as well as other countries. We do not know how accurately it would apply in Rhode Island. It is found, by a complicated mathematical analysis, that "three-eighths of the increase of population in Massachusetts is the natural increase by excess of births over deaths, and that five-eighths is due to excess of immigration over emigration, most of which is the foreign element."

The colored inhabitants are distinguished in most of the censuses. They have been, on the whole, remarkably stationary in numbers, for a hundred years, in which time the entire population of Rhode Island has increased more than fourfold. The 4,373 blacks of the census of 1748, included Indians; and in subsequent enumerations the two races have been confounded in a great degree. Of late, as we shall see, they have been in fact so blended that the Indian blood is hardly anywhere found pure.

The numbers of colored persons, by eight successive censuses, together with their proportion to the total population, are shown in the following table. By the last census, they form less than half as large a fraction of the total population, as in 1800.

Census.	No. of colored.	Percentage of ditto.	Census.	No. of colored.	Percentage of ditto.
1774.....	3,768.....	6.31	1820.....	3,572.....	4.30
1790.....	4,421.....	6.40	1830.....	3,571.....	3.67
1800.....	3,685.....	5.33	1840.....	3,241.....	2.98
1810.....	3,717.....	4.83	1850.....	3,670.....	2.49

By reference to the table which shows the results of the census of 1774, it will be seen that then there were more blacks in the town of Newport than in any other whole county, and South Kingstown came next to Newport. This illustrates the social condition of those towns, compared with others, most of these negroes having been slaves.

The colored population tend toward the compact places, even more than the general average of the inhabitants. In 1774, Newport, then the largest town, contained about one-third of all the blacks in the colony. Providence county contained less than a sixth. In 1850, almost half the colored population of the State was found in Providence county, and more than 40 per cent. were in the city of Providence. Both Newport and Washington county lost in actual number of colored inhabitants, between the two periods just referred to; though, in Washington county, the remnants of the Indian race are included with the colored, in the last census.

The Indian tribe still maintains a nominally distinct existence, in Charlestown; though the latest reports of the Commissioner of the tribe, show that there are none left of pure blood. In 1833, the number belonging to the Narragansets, in Charlestown, was stated to be 199; 7 being of genuine Narraganset blood, and 14 of about half-blood. All of full Indian blood were aged females. In December, 1858, the whole number of all grades claiming Indian descent, at Charlestown, was 122. None were of wholly Indian blood; two were said to be of three-fourths, and ten of half-blood.



APPENDIX

TO

SIXTH REGISTRATION REPORT.



A P P E N D I X .

THE REGISTRATION LAW OF RHODE ISLAND.

REVISED STATUTES, TITLE XIV., CHAPTER 76.

SECTION 1. The town clerks of the several towns, or in lieu thereof, any person whom the board of aldermen of any city, or the town council of any town may, upon the written recommendation of an authorized committee of the Rhode Island Medical Society, appoint for that purpose, are hereby authorized and required to obtain, chronologically record and index, as required by the forms prescribed by the third section of this chapter, all information concerning births, marriages and deaths occurring among the inhabitants of their respective towns; and on or before the first Monday in March, annually, to make duly certified returns thereof to the secretary of state, for each year, ending on the thirty-first day of December, accompanying the same with a list of those individuals required by law to make returns to them, who have neglected the same, and with such remarks relating to the object of the law as they may deem important to communicate.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the secretary of state to receive the returns made in pursuance of the preceding section, and annually, with such assistance as shall be rendered by any authorized committee of the Rhode Island Medical Society, to make and publish, not exceeding one thousand copies, a general abstract and report thereof, in form as prescribed by section third of this chapter. He shall also cause said returns to be arranged, full alphabetical indexes of all the names to be made, the whole to be bound in convenient sized volumes, and carefully preserved in his office, for which he shall receive the sum of fifty dollars.

SEC. 3. The blank forms required to carry out the provisions of this chapter shall, on application, be furnished by the secretary of state to clergymen, physicians, undertakers, town clerks, clerks of the Society of Friends, and other persons requiring them, substantially after the following forms, viz: The record of a *birth* shall state the date and place of birth, name and sex of the child, whether living or still born, the name and surname, color, occupation, residence and birth place of the parents, and the time of recording, so far as the same can be ascertained. The record of a *marriage* shall state the date of the marriage, place, name, residence, and official station of the person by whom married, names and surnames of the parties, age, color, occupation and residence of each, condition (whether single or widowed,) what marriage, if second, third or other marriage, the occupation, birth-

place and name of their parents, and the time of recording so far as the same can be ascertained. The record of *deaths* shall state the date of death, name and surname of deceased, the sex, color and condition, (single or married,) age, occupation, place of death, place of birth, names and birth place of parents, disease or cause of death, and the time of recording, so far as can be ascertained.

Of Marriages.

SEC. 4. Every Society of Friends, clergymen, and all others, authorized to join persons in marriage, shall make a faithful record of every such rite performed by them, in manner and form aforesaid, and return the same on or before the second Monday of every month, for the last preceding month, to the clerk of the town in which such rite shall have been performed; and no marriage shall be solemnized, until the parties shall have signed and delivered to the authority about to solemnize it, or to the clerk of a Society of Friends, a certificate containing the information required for the record of a marriage, as prescribed in the third section of this chapter.

Of Births.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the clerk of each of the towns, annually, in the month of January, to collect the facts required by section third of this chapter, in relation to all children born in the town during the year ending the thirty-first day of December next preceding, and for each full report of a birth so obtained, the clerk shall receive ten cents, to be paid by the town in which the birth is recorded.

Of Deaths.

SEC. 6. Whenever any person shall die in the state, it shall be the duty of the physician attending in his or her last sickness, within forty-eight hours after the death, to leave with the family, if any, or persons having the care of the deceased, or to give to the undertaker or person who conducts the funeral, a certificate stating the name of the deceased, the date of the death, and the disease or cause of death.

Of Undertakers.

SEC. 7. There may be appointed by the town authorities of every town a sufficient number of persons to act as undertakers, removable at the pleasure of the authorities.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the undertaker, or of the person who conducts a funeral, or who buries, or deposits in a tomb, the body of any deceased person, to obtain the facts required by section third of this chapter, in relation to deaths, concerning such deceased person, together with the physician's certificate of the cause of death, if a physician was in attendance, and on or before the second Monday of the next succeeding month to make a return of the facts obtained, together with the physician's certificate, to the clerk of the town in which the death occurred.

SEC. 9. Any town may enact municipal laws, more effectually to attain the objects herein contemplated: *Provided*, they do not conflict with the main and specific object of this act, viz: to secure the most perfect registration.

Of Fees.

SEC. 10. The town clerks or persons recommended and appointed as aforesaid, shall receive for each record of a birth or death, made and returned as required by law, ten cents; and for each record of a marriage, made and returned as required by law, twenty cents; to be paid to them out of their respective town treasuries: *Provided*, That the yearly compensation to be paid out of the town treasury as aforesaid, to any one town clerk or person appointed as aforesaid who shall faith-

fully perform the duties prescribed by this chapter, shall not be less than five dollars. Undertakers and others making returns of deaths as required in section eight of this chapter, shall receive for each full report of a death made to the town clerk, five cents in the cities of Providence or Newport, and ten cents in the other towns of the state.

SEC. 11. If any clergyman, physician, undertaker, town clerk, clerk of any meeting of the Society of Friends, or other person, shall willfully neglect or refuse to perform any of the duties imposed on, or required of him, by this chapter, he shall, at the discretion of the court or justice trying the cause, on conviction thereof, be fined not exceeding twenty dollars, for each offence, one-half thereof to the use of the town in which the offence shall occur, the other half to the person who shall complain of the same.

SEC. 12. In order that it may be more surely ascertained that no clergyman, physician, coroner, undertaker, or clerk of the Society of Friends, neglects to make the returns specified in this chapter, each one shall cause his name and residence to be recorded in the clerk's office of the town where he resides.

SEC. 13. No letters of administration or letters testamentary, shall be granted by any court of probate upon the effects or estate of any person until the death of such person, or the facts from which the same is presumed, shall be duly certified, as near as may be, to the town clerk, in order that the same may be duly registered according to the provisions of this chapter.

SEC. 14. The said books or registers, or a certificate duly certified by the town clerk, or person appointed as aforesaid, as containing a full copy of the record of any marriage, birth or death, shall hereafter be admitted in any court in this state, as *prima facie* proof of any marriage, birth or death.

SEC. 15. Births, marriages, and deaths of non-residents shall be distinguished from those of residents, in the returns, by being arranged separately.

SEC. 16. The secretary of state, may from time to time, vary the forms of returns, and require such additional information as he may consider necessary to effect the object of this chapter.

SEC. 17. The sum of two hundred and fifty dollars annually, to be drawn for by the secretary of state, is appropriated out of the general treasury, to defray the expense incident to examining, collecting and arranging the registration returns, making the necessary tables and drawing up the report required by the second section of this chapter.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF COLORED PERSONS.

In five years and seven months, from June 1, 1853 to December 31, 1858, 418 deaths of colored persons were recorded in the State. No causes were assigned for 32; leaving 386 deaths by given causes. We give a table exhibiting these causes of deaths of colored persons, classified. It will be observed that there were three times as many deaths by respiratory as by zymotic diseases, and that consumption was charged with nearly one-third.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN COLORED PERSONS,

JUNE 1, 1858—DECEMBER 31, 1858.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	No.	Per cent.	CAUSES OF DEATH.	No.	Per cent.
I. ZYMOTIC DISEASES.			V. CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.		
Cholera Infantum.....	7	1.8	Heart, Disease of	21	5.4
Cholera Morbus	2	.5			
Croup	8	2.1	VI. DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.		
Diarrhea and Dysentery.....	12	3.1	Colic	2	.5
Erysipelas	4	1.0	Liver, Disease of	2	.5
Fever, Typhoid	5	1.3	Peritonitis	2	.5
Measles	3	.8	Teething	2	.5
Scarlatina	5	1.3	Others	5	1.3
Small Pox.....	1	.2			
Syphilis	2	.5	Total	13	3.4
Others	2	.5			
			VII. URINARY SYSTEM.		
Total	51	13.2	Total	3	.8
II. SEAT UNDEFINED.			VIII. GENERATIVE SYST'M.		
Cancer.....	4	1.0	Child Birth	1	.2
Dropsy	14	3.6	Ovarian & Uterine Diseases	5	1.3
Marasmus	8	2.1			
Scrofula.....	6	1.6	Total	6	1.6
Others	6	1.6			
			IX. LOCOMOTIVE SYSTEM.		
Total	38	9.8	Rheumatism	1	.2
III. NERVOUS SYSTEM.					
Apoplexy and Paralysis.....	11	2.9	X. OLD AGE.....		
Brain, Affections of	9	2.3			
Convulsions.....	12	3.1			
Delirium Tremens	4	1.0	XI. EXTERNAL CAUSES.		
Epilepsy	2	.5	Burn	2	.5
Hydrocephalus	18	4.7	Casualty	3	.8
Others	3	.8	Homicide.....	2	.5
			Intemperance	1	.2
Total	59	15.3	Suffocation	2	.5
			Others	3	.8
IV. RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.					
Asthma	2	.5	Total	13	3.4
Bronchitis	7	1.8			
Consumption	116	30.1	Whole number by } specified causes }	386	100.0
Dropsy of Chest.....	1	.2			
Pleurisy and Pneumonia.....	29	7.5			
Total	155	40.2			



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